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No. 493.  
[New Issue.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1881.

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And his garb black like the raven's wing.  
'Nothing heard but his foot through the hall,  
For now the lords were silent all."

A refrain in this ballad is given and then withdrawn, to re-appear at the mid-crisis of the narrative and at the close. Wisely; for neither the unvarying refrain, which is employed to preserve a ground-tone behind the shifting incident, nor the varying refrain, which is a miniature chorus interpreting some coming doom, not by moral reflections, but by picturesque symbolism, is needed here. We only need the toll at long intervals of the passing bell.

"The King's Tragedy" is unquestionably the greatest narrative-poem that we have yet had from Mr. Rossetti. Its subject—the story of the murder of King James I. of Scotland—told by Catherine Douglas, who vainly barred the door against the murderers with her right arm, unites as much of pity and terror, of beauty and valour and love, overshadowed by doom, as the ballad form can well receive; and all is shot through with a penetrating ray of unearthly light, the gleam of a wild Northern superstition.

"That eve was clenched for a boding storm,  
'Neath a toilsome moon half seen;  
The cloud stooped low and the surf rose high;  
And where there was a line of the sky,  
Wild wings loomed dark between."

"And on a rock of the black beach-side,  
By the veiled moon dimly lit,  
There was something seemed to heave with life  
As the King drew near to it."

"And was it only the tossing furze  
Or brake of the waste sea-wold?  
Or was it an eagle bent to the blast?  
When near we came, we knew it at last  
For a woman tattered and old."

"But it seemed as though by a fire within  
Her writen limbs were wrung;  
And as soon as the King was close to her,  
She stood up gaunt and strong."

"'Twas then the moon sailed clear of the rack  
On high in her hollow dome;  
And still as aloft with hoary crest  
Each clamorous wave rang home,  
Like fire in snow the moonlight blazed  
Amid the champing foam."

This was the prophetess of death who had thrice seen the King's wraith by the Scottish Sea—once with the shroud clinging around the feet, once with the shroud wound about the knees, and once more

"With both thine arms 'i' the shroud  
That clung high up thy breast."

It is remarkable how closely Mr. Rossetti has adhered to the incidents as recorded in history, and yet how he has heightened them with the discoveries of imaginative vision. I do not know that he has departed from the real story in any important particular except in suppressing the incident of the King's desiring to be haled up with sheets from his loathsome place of shelter, and the falling-in of Elizabeth Douglas, whom the conspirators discovered with their lord when they tore up the plank.

Admirable as are the ballads, "The House of Life" is Mr. Rossetti's highest achievement in verse. There are two other "sonnet-sequences," and only two, in English poetry which can take rank beside it, "The Sonnets of Shakspeare" and "Sonnets from the Portuguese." It is no wrong to Shakspeare's genius to admit that of his sonnets not a few are overrun with the vices of style characteristic of his age; and we may with as little fear of injury acknowledge that some sonnets of Mrs. Browning lack that fine artistic self-control, the highest obedience to the law of beauty, which should be as stringent as the self-control of asceticism, and is so much more fruitful. On the other hand, pure and exquisite as is the conception of love embodied in Mr. Rossetti's sonnets, there is another way of love, a higher way, which some poet of harder temper, who grasps more largely the facts of life, may yet interpret for us. Not beauty alone, and sweetness and grace and gentle companionship and tender fidelity, will enter into that ideal. Courage and comradeship, all that is most common and, therefore, most precious, seams and scars, the tokens of stress and strain, strife and endurance, must present themselves as readily as gold hair and the liquid eyes of youth. To breast the gale, to ride into the blast, must be discovered to be as blissful and secure as any leafy recess amid the soft *roucoulements* of the grove. Mr. Rossetti's haunt of love is a garden enclosed like that of mediæval poets, until it is entered and laid waste by the dread powers of doom. But to compensate—great abstractions from life made living presences by Mr. Rossetti's myth-making imagination hover always at hand to give largeness and space to these poems. Here is a sonnet as great as it is exquisite.

"THE DARK GLASS.

"Not I myself know all my love for thee:

How should I reach so far, who cannot weigh

To-morrow's dower by gage of yesterday?

Shall birth and death, and all dark names that be

As doors and windows bared to some loud sea,

Lash deaf mine ears and blind my face with

spray,

And shall my sense pierce love—the last relay  
And ultimate outpost of eternity?

"Lo! what am I to love, the lord of all?

One murmuring shell he gathers from the

sand,—

One little heart-flame sheltered in his hand.

Yet through thine eyes he grants me clearest

call

And veriest touch of powers primordial

That any cloud-girt life may understand."

There are others of the hitherto unprinted sonnets no less noble, and in some there are a devoutness and humility and aspiration which show the religious side of a great artist's endeavours.

The attentive reader will notice that some

of the reprinted sonnets have undergone textual alterations. "Love's Redemption," new-named "Love's Testament," loses its sacramental imagery. "Sibylla Palmifera" and "Lilith" appear as companion pieces in "The House of Life," with the titles "Soul's Beauty" and "Body's Beauty." The reference to music in the "Monochord" expands to wider significances. The words "long lithe throat" in "The Portrait" become "enthroning throat," and one sonnet, "Nuptial Sleep," is omitted—whether for good or evil may be left for nice persons (according to Swift's definition) to decide. Not it, I think, but some worthier equivalent poem had a right to a place in such a series as "The House of Life."

Among the lyrical pieces, one shadowed with all the melancholy of the unsolved riddle of mortal life, "The Cloud Confines," may be singled out as the most remarkable. The miscellaneous sonnets include a short series on English poets—Keats, Coleridge, Blake, Chatterton, Shelley—and a fine outbreak of sorrow and indignation caused by the death of the late Czar.

EDWARD DOWDEN.

*A Supplementary English Glossary.* By T. Lewis O. Davies. (George Bell & Sons.)

WE believe there are more people who care for knowledge concerning English words than there used to be. It is quite certain, however the language may be deteriorating in other respects—and the processes of decay are as evident as those of growth—that the better sort of writers are much more careful in the matter of word-selection than their predecessors of the last generation were. Our dictionaries are, it is true, but little improved, but in former days the writing and reading public were quite satisfied with them—considered, indeed, that Todd's *Johnson* was about as near perfection as human industry could attain unto. Now there is a widespread distrust in dictionaries, and something amounting almost to clamour for the issue of the promised new one, the idea of which, we believe, the public owe to certain members of the Philological Society.

Mr. Davies has done a most useful work in compiling the word-catalogue before us. No sensible man would expect it to be in any sort complete; but it is a most useful thing to possess a handbook containing a vast number of words, with examples, that are either not in our standard dictionaries at all or are illustrated therein in an imperfect manner. It can never be too much impressed on the notice of those who have not given attention to word-formation and word-history that the ugly and badly formed words which are a fungus growth of language are worthy of study. In the first place, we constantly meet with them, and it is important to know what they signify; and, in the second, they are themselves historically interesting. The frightful compounds which ignorant people persist in forming from Greek and Latin would, of course, never be used by anyone who had an ear for speech; but even they have their interest as showing what some half-instructed people think beautiful. It is

a mistake to suppose that the ignorant like to be spoken to in a dialect that is perfectly intelligible to them. An amusing instance of this came under our own notice during a recent contested election. At a certain village where all the inhabitants, except the vicar and the doctor, are simple farming folk, three speeches were made by educated men, who put what they had to say in clear and homely language. A fourth oration was delivered at about the same time by an uneducated man who had stored a powerful memory with the longest and most pompous words he could meet with. We were told soon afterwards that, quite apart from the political views of the speakers, the man who used the seven-leagued words was liked by far the best, because, as our informant said, he was "so highly learned." If any of our readers are anxious to excel in this kind of oratory, they may themselves become "highly learned" with very little trouble if they possess themselves of Mr. Davies' *Glossary*, for it overflows with compounds, old and new, which are so unintelligible that they must delight the public ear. Excelsitude, liquescent, pollarchy, and cogitabund must, if used with circumspection, raise any rural person is a lofty pinnacle in the estimation of his neighbours. If he could only frame his lips to call a stone-breaker a lithoclast (for which Mr. Davies furnishes him with good authority), we do not doubt for an instant that he would very shortly be raised by a unanimous vote of the villagers to the distinguished office of surveyor of the highways.

As far as we are able to test Mr. Davies' work, it seems very free from important errors. Of course there are omissions, not of words only (for to have rendered such a compilation complete would have been a manifest impossibility), but of information which would have been useful under the word he does give. Thus, under Alderman we are told, and an example is produced to show, that it once meant a Presbyterian elder; and it is added on the authority of Jamieson that alderman was formerly used to "denote a mayor in Scotch boroughs." If Mr. Davies had consulted Mr. Gomme's *Index of Municipal Offices*, he would have found that the head-men of several of our English towns—Malmesbury and Grantham, among others—bore this title until the passing of the Municipal Reform Act converted them into mayors. The officers of many of our old guilds were in like manner called aldermen.

To water-furrow is not described quite accurately. An example is given from Tusser, but the word must occur in many more recent farming-books. It means to plough out the furrow that lies between two "lands" in an open field or an enclosure so as to leave a flat bottom, and thus furnish a free course for the surface drainage. Peltry, too, properly signifies the skins of animals; clippings of hide were so worthless at the period of the Reformation, when all parties were on the look-out for new and forcible terms of abuse, that peltry was employed to denote rubbish of any kind. It retains this meaning at the present day in several of the dialects. Mr. Davies gives but one example, taken from the *Vocabulary* of the foul-mouthed Bishop of Ossory, who called certain things which were distaste-



ful to him "popysh peltries." Several other sixteenth-century instances of this use of the word could be produced. For example, in 1566 the churchwardens of Aslaby, in Lincolnshire, in an official document, describe the parish service books as "the mass bookes, the processioners, the manuels, and all such peltrei of the popes sinfull service." Bishop Bale's writings were then highly popular; and it is probable that his frequent use of the word may have had something to do with its coming into common use, especially as it alliterated so excellently well with "popish." The oldest authority which Mr. Davies has found for biddable, obedient, is *Dombey and Son*. The word was used by William Cobbett. There are doubtless many other instances in which it would be possible to furnish earlier examples than any here given, and, in the case of words considered obsolete, to show that they have lingered on to a much later period. This, however, does not in any way detract from the merits of Mr. Davies' work. It is a monument of care and industry, and will be of extreme use to every future worker in the same field. We hope that the author will not rest from his labours, but compile other volumes on the same plan. We do not think there are more than one or two notes from the *Journals* of the House of Commons. The earlier volumes of this great series and the *Statutes at Large* are still an unworked mine. The writings of the late Mortimer Collins are also a splendid hunting-ground for those in search of words not as yet in the dictionaries.

EDWARD PEACOCK.

*Le second Voyage de Vasco da Gama à Calicut.* Relation flamande éditée vers MDIV; reproduite avec une traduction et une introduction par J. Ph. Berjeau. (Paris: Charavay Frères.)

THE history of the Portuguese in India is of so great interest from all points of view that every contribution to our knowledge should be welcome. Unfortunately, the Portuguese historians—Barros, Castanheda, and Correa—are not very accessible in trustworthy editions, and few can even read Portuguese. Lord Stanley of Alderley has, however, translated many of their most important books for the Hakluyt Society. But the great historians wrote about half-a-century after the discovery of India by da Gama; and it is evident that, as regards the earlier times, and especially from 1497 to 1505, they had little to rely on but hearsay. Barros never was in India, but Castanheda and Correa were there for several years. The first, who was a man of very good common-sense, made much use of his opportunities. Correa was careless and imaginative.

Of late years, several log-books and contemporaneous letters have come to light which clear up many difficulties about the earlier voyages; and M. Berjeau (well known by his beautiful facsimiles of some typographical curiosities) drew attention to a curious Dutch account (of 1504) of Vasco da Gama's second voyage (1502-3) by a *fac-simile* which he published in 1874. He has now reprinted the text, with a French translation and an Introduction. Dr. Stier has

also lately found an imperfect copy of the same, which he has edited (Brunswick, 1881). The unique printed text used by M. Berjeau is in the British Museum.

The present publication must have cost him some trouble, but he cannot be congratulated on the new line he has chosen. Where an error was possible he appears to have committed one. Like all the log-books, &c., hitherto discovered, this Dutch account shows the compiler's ignorance, and is, therefore, not easy to explain; it seems to have been written by a sailor. There are, however, other means of controlling it, of the existence of the first of which M. Berjeau does not seem to have been aware.

The most important of these are:—

(1) The account of Thomé Lopes, who was a ship's clerk on the voyage. This very full account was first given by Ramusio in Italian, and has been retranslated into Portuguese in the second volume of the *Noticias para a Historia e Geografia das Nações ultramarinas* (Lisbon, 1812).

(2) A letter written by the King of Portugal in 1505 to the King of Castile (Ferdinand), which exists in a rude Italian version only. Unfortunately, a comparison of all the accounts leaves much, especially the dates, in doubt; but to discuss these would take too much space here. Exaggerations are also evident, and even King Manuel is guilty of several, though his letter—(2) above—is generally a valuable and careful account.

It remains to notice the geography of the Dutch log-book. The writer displays ignorance and carelessness—e.g., Miskebije is put for Mosambique; Hylo or Kilo, for Quiloa, as the Portuguese wrote what is better Kilwah. But there can be no doubt, in most cases, as to what is intended. Surely "t'lant van Marabia" (p. 50) is simply a misprint for "t'lant van Arabia"? How could a sailor have picked up "Iram-Arabie," which M. Berjeau suggests is intended? Curiously enough, the Flemish sailor (p. 52) says that "Machomet, the heathens' devil," is buried at Mecca. This is a common statement in the old travellers, though Varthema early corrected it, and it must have arisen from the objects of mediæval pilgrimages being chiefly the tombs of saints. So Europeans assumed hastily that the Muhammadans went to Mecca for the same purpose, forgetting that Muhammad was buried at Medina. On p. 58, "a Christian town called Granor" is mentioned. M. Berjeau has identified this with Travancore! By what strange confusion he has done so is hard to understand, for Travancore is south of Cochin, as every child will know, and this town is stated to be between Cochin and Calicut. It is evident that Cranganore is intended. On p. 64, "tomboer" is mentioned—i.e., the Sanskrit name for betel (the Malayalam-Tamil name). This perfectly authentic word has given M. Berjeau a deal of trouble; on p. 28 of his Introduction he indulges in some wild misstatements about it. On page 24 he says that Calcoen—i.e., Calicut—is called Kalikhodon in Sanskrit. This barbarous word is a simple fiction; it is not a Sanskrit word at all, and certainly was never a name of Calicut (properly Kôlkkôdu, Sanskritised "Kukkuṭapuri"). M. Berjeau might as well invent a Sanskrit original for

"Paris" or "Abbeville." The numerous other errors do not need notice, they are so evident.

Except so far as the text goes, this pamphlet, then, is not likely to be of any use; M. Berjeau is innocent of any knowledge of the literature of the early Portuguese voyages, and has most incorrect notions of India and Indian matters. Much that needs explanation is left unnoticed by him; his translation is not exact.

Dr. Stiers' pamphlet is carefully done, and annotated in a more scholar-like way; except that his original was defective, it is far superior in every way to M. Berjeau's superficial and hasty work, and will be of use to historians.

A. BURNELL.

*Non-miraculous Christianity, and other Sermons.* Preached in the Chapel of Trinity College, Dublin. By George Salmon, D.D. (Macmillan.)

DR. SALMON, who is equally well known for his theological and mathematical works, has issued another volume of his suggestive and characteristic sermons. They are examples of condensed essays rather than of pulpit eloquence; and, at the same time, they are eminently befitting an academic audience. They exhibit only sparingly the *periodus oratoria* as we find it in the written eloquence of such great modern preachers as Mr. Liddon or M. Bersier, of Paris. They remind us a good deal of the sermons which Butler preached in the Rolls Chapel; and, though Dr. Salmon, any more than Butler himself or any other preacher, has not attained Butler's ingenious idea of stating the arguments without drawing the conclusions, he has approximated more than any other preacher whom we know to such an abnormal state of things. His sermons ought to have been heard with profit, not only for their reasoning, but their fervour; but it is in the printed form that they will best do their work and be found the most serviceable. They are thoroughly pervaded by that *lumen siccum* which will indeed prove their main charm to his readers; and they also abound in references to contemporary life and literature, especially in the scattered notes, which might advantageously be expanded. He does not disdain to quote *Middlemarch* or the daily newspaper; he has discussions on the theories of Matthew Arnold and Herbert Spencer; and in one of his notes, he clears up the real meaning of an interesting point in the life of Swift which had been disinterred by Mr. Forster. His newspaper note is worth quoting, and has some parallel instances of humour in the volume. "Is your father a Christian?" said a gentleman to a little boy on one occasion. "Yes, sir," said the little boy; "but I believe he has not worked much at it lately."

There is an organic unity about the volume, which takes up point after point of Christian life and doctrine in regular succession. After the analogy of the Pauline epistles, it consists both of pure and applied theology. The first sermon, from which the book borrows its title, is, in fact, a resolute protest against the fashion of minimising the miraculous. Criticism, he truly says, must be single-

minded, and work without any *arrière pensée*. A non-miraculous Christianity ceases to be Christianity. When concession has done its utmost, the limit is soon reached when either the miraculous must be admitted or Christianity be abandoned. 'This is an inexorable dilemma which cannot be long evaded. When once we admit a miraculous resurrection, it is impossible to avoid the admission that Christ had a supernatural birth and a supernatural mission. A non-miraculous Christianity would substitute for the article of the Creed, "on the third day he rose again from the dead," such a phrase as, "on or about the third day it came to be believed that he rose again from the dead." Such a system necessarily collapses. "A non-miraculous Christianity is as much a contradiction in terms as a quadrangular circle." Then we have two sermons on the name of Christian, from which he derives a strong argument for the divinity of Christ. Men appropriate knowledge without binding themselves as disciples to the first discoverers of such knowledge; and, incorporating such wisdom as they have attained, press onwards to still higher results. Truth is catholic, and does not rest on the authority of any illustrious name. The philosophers who called themselves Newtonians were outstripped in discovery because they adhered too closely to Newton's methods. The very name Christian attests the fact that Christ is the power and secret of Christianity. The next sermon has a somewhat original and remarkable subject. It is entitled "A Scientific Test applied to Atheistic Theories of Religion." Dr. Salmon professes, and shows in many ways, an absolute devotion to truth, which, historically speaking, certainly has not always been found in theologians.

"It may not be very agreeable to be told that our father was an ape, and that we ourselves are but machines, and that our future is annihilation; but if these things be true better the ugliest truth than the most beautiful lie that was ever invented."

He goes on to argue,

"Experience has proved to us that a belief in no lie can really benefit the world. Well, then, does it not follow conversely that, if a belief really benefits the world, it cannot prove a lie?"

His scientific test is, therefore, the beneficial utility of Christianity. This form of putting the question is, however, open to discussion. Can it really be said to constitute a fact that amounts to "a scientific test"? It is going too far to assert that a false belief might utterly fail to benefit mankind. Mahomedanism is a distinct advance on the evil and cruel forms of idolatry, which it has superseded in some countries. An Atheist has said that if there were no God it would be necessary to invent one; and one acute writer has argued that it would be better to worship a crocodile than nothing at all. Dr. Salmon puts his idea in a safer way when he calls on his opponents to produce some instance in the whole history of philosophy where the discovery of a new truth involved a loss of power to those who accepted it. He works out this idea with considerable force and eloquence. With characteristic fairness, he is willing to open anew any question in science or theology where new evidence may seem to require a

new trial. His intellectual temper does not rest on any doctrine of certitude. In an ingenious note he argues that this "certitude" is the error common both to Dr. Newman's Grammar of Assent and to Hume's argument against the credibility of miracles. Newman will never re-examine a principle which he once thinks he has demonstrated, and Hume refuses to examine into the evidence of exception to any law of nature the absolute immutability of which we suppose ourselves to have once ascertained. The last sermon of this order is on "Evolution." He meets the evolutionist on his own ground in a way which, if not original, is at least effective. Whatever theory of creation may be formed, we cannot escape the inference of adaptation and contrivance. The history of the world and of each individual exhibits the processes of development and evolution; and whatever the evolutionist demands is strictly in accordance with the analogies of the divine purposes. The whole discourse is well worth reading.

Sermons, such as these are addressed rather to the eye than to the ear; and, indeed, a repeated perusal is necessary for their due appreciation. The sermons in the second half of the volume are on more usual and popular topics; but in their closeness of reasoning, and in the allusive literary style, will be rather beyond the average intelligence. The last sermon—on the Epistle of St. James—deals in a full and interesting way, in the manner of an ecclesiastical essay, with the condition of the Hebrew Church between the first preaching of the Gospel and the destruction of Jerusalem. Sermons of this robust fibre, full of thought and learning, might be more useful for ordinary congregations than such congregations may be apt to suppose. It is a distinct intellectual and spiritual gain when men are convinced of ignorance and stimulated into thoughtful enquiry. Such a volume as the present is especially deserving of the attention of the clergy. Some of the sermons might be very suitably entitled *conciones ad clerum*. It would, indeed, be much for the interests of the Church of England, and for the cause of religion generally, if, instead of the conventional religious talk, which has exacted little thought from the preacher and still less from the audience, we had discourses with the vigour, thoroughness, and care that characterise this remarkable volume.

F. ARNOLD.

*Allgemeine Geschichte der Literatur des Mittelalters im Abendlande.* By Adolf Ebert. Band II. (Leipzig: Vogel.)

THE second volume of Ebert's work reaches from the age of Charles the Great to the death of Charles the Bald, and is devoted entirely to the Latin literature of the time, a literature which begins to assume an altered character at the end of this period. The next volume will contain an account of the national literature, whether German or French, as well as of the Latin liturgical poetry to which the use of sequences gave a new impulse.

Ebert uses the word *literature* in a somewhat strict sense, so as to exclude mere

theological commentaries and the like, though theological works that are of any literary importance or valuable for the history of culture are described, and especially when they contain notices of the curious superstitions imported into the Church by its having absorbed so much of heathendom. Thus Raban, Walahfrid Strabo, Gottschalk, Agobard, Claudius of Turin, Radbert and Ratramnus, Hinemar, and Erigena form the subjects of separate chapters. Ebert lays stress on the lay character of the teaching during this period, since the chief teachers now belonged to the schools connected with the palace of Charles the Great under Alcuin's influence, and not to the purely clerical schools. In the next age people could hardly believe that so much attention had been paid to heathen literature. The author of the *Vita Alcuini* says: "Legerat isdem vir Domini libros juvenis antiquorum philosophorum Virgilique mendacia, quae nolebat iam ipse nec audire neque discipulos suos legere; sufficiunt, inquiens, divini poetae vobis, nec egetis luxuriosa sermonis Virgilii vos pollui facundia;" and again, "Hac autem insignitum virtute Albinum mira cum pietate veneremur, qui noluit absincium saecularis litteraturae nosse." Nothing could be further from the truth. It is somewhat remarkable to see how the tradition of even complicated classical metres was handed on even when alliteration and rhyme were already exerting their influence; and Ebert devotes a separate chapter to metre. The poets and historians naturally attract most attention; and Einhard's debt to Suetonius, which makes his Life of Charles the Great so remarkable, is, of course, recognised. Not a few English writers, from Alcuin downwards, receive their due praise, and we shall have even more attention in the next volume. The restoration of learning abroad was due to scholars from the great school of York, and England was the basis of missionary operations for Germany and the North. The debt was repaid in Alfred's time. After Charles the Great, however, came the disastrous reign of his son, Lewis the Pious, one of those weak, good kings whose rule is more ruinous to their country than that of a tyrant, and whose fatal facility makes them mere tools in the hands of their women and their household. Lewis even burnt his father's collection of the German heroic lays—a misdeed which can never be forgiven. Charles the Bald, however, was a true friend to literature. As the empire fell to pieces, the national character of the writers begins to display itself more; and Ebert is careful to notice the nationality of each author, and show how the character of the Anglo-Saxon, the Irishman, the German, the Italian, and the Spaniard manifests itself.

The influence of Taine's theory is perceptible in this part. West France and East France, Lorraine and Aquitaine, have each their representatives, as well as the fanaticism of Spain and the cool criticism of Italy. Ebert acknowledges his debt to the numerous monographies that have lately appeared on his subject, and to such important historical works as Simson's *Jahrbücher des fränkischen Reichs unter Ludwig dem Frommen* and Dümmler's *Geschichte des ostfränkischen Reichs*, as well as to the latter's *Poetae*



*Latini aevi Carolini* (which has since been published in the *Monumenta*), but above all to Wattenbach's *Deutschlands Geschichtsquellen im Mittelalter*. The condensation of matter and clearness of analysis in Ebert's own book is all that could be wished, and the next volume will be very welcome.

C. W. BOASE.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*Cecily's Debt*. By Mrs. A. B. Church. In 3 vols. (Sampson Low.)

*With Costs*. By Mrs. Newman. In 3 vols. (F. V. White.)

*Bainbridge Holme*. By Charles Henry. In 2 vols. (Remingtons.)

*Derval Hampton*. By James Grant. In 2 vols. (W. H. Allen.)

*The Three Frights, &c.* By Sarah Tytler. (Marshall, Japp & Co.)

Mrs. A. B. Church's new story is a well-planned, but far from pleasant, one. Deprived of her father and her father's fortune, practically deserted by those whom she considered her friends, and left alone in Marseilles, Cecily Mannering finds herself thrown upon a stranger for sympathy. This is the "debt" which she contracts, and which is not paid in full before the end of the third volume. The sympathising stranger is a Mrs. Carew, or Daylmer, who turns out to be a widow and an adventuress of the type of Becky Sharp with some essentially Ouida-esque aggravations. Before her husband's death she had numerous other men dangling after her; and she plays with still more fatal effect the rôle of siren when he is gone. She intrigues with three lovers at once. One of them, Cecily's uncle, is shot by another, Strafford Fane, cousin and namesake of Cecily's own lover, who dies shortly after this exploit; the third lives to be cured of his infatuation, and to tell Cecily the story. Mrs. Daylmer is, withal, clever and good-natured; and perhaps, as one of her male *clientèle* remarks, she would have done better if she "had had a better chance." Wherever she goes on the Continent she has a "fast" following. Innocent Cecily is introduced to this set; and, although she is warned against it by one of its members, a Bohemian author of the name of Carruthers, she refuses to desert her acquaintance. She is compromised in consequence; her lover leaves her; and she receives a crowning insult in an offer of marriage from a selfish snob who had left her at Marseilles when she was thought to be penniless, and who deliberately tells her that, discarded by society as she is, he is her "last chance." Even when Mrs. Daylmer is revealed to Cecily in her true character, matters are complicated by her mistaking her Strafford Fane for his cousin, who shot her uncle, Jack Castlewood. The skein is a very tangled one, and Mrs. Church shows considerable skill in unravelling it. Her portraits, too, are well enough drawn with the single exception of Strafford Fane, who we are asked to consider as godlike, but who is only shadowy. Well-meaning George Kirby, who would be generous but for his selfish wife, is a genuine,

though plain, middle-class Englishman. We cannot but regret, however, that Mrs. Church should have wasted her undoubted powers in depicting such a crew of social picaroons, the female members of which are, if possible, worse than the males.

In spirit, *With Costs* is superior to *Cecily's Debt*, but inferior in plot-interest and in style. Nora Gray, or Heathcote, or Norman, is a loveable heroine; and her lovers, Basil Lydesley and Sir Edward Wraystone, are manly enough fellows, although Basil has, perhaps, a superabundance of the stock boarding-school gifts. There is human nature, too, in Luke Norman, who conceals from the world that he is in reality the detested money-lending firm of "Blair & Co.," and that he had married a supposed widow, whose first husband, however, proves to be alive. Even Mrs. Verral, who succeeds in discovering these secrets, has no worse aim than making a good match for her daughter Alicia; and one begins to like Geraldine Fanshawe, in spite of her simplicity and her feeble efforts to captivate Lydesley by prattling about Shakspeare and reading up volumes of "gems." The story is clumsily told, however, and the relations between the characters are anything but clearly defined. Mrs. Newman is besides far too prone to indulge in sloppy English like this:—

"Theirs are the healthy balanced lives of mental and physical culture which begets wide sympathies, and both Basil and his wife are keenly interested in all the new schemes for ameliorating the misery of the world."

Is Mr. Charles Henry a grave practical joker? or is he bent on revolutionising the practice of Scotland Yard? As *Bainbridge Holme* appears to the uninitiated, it is a vigorous effort to prove how, with the help of spirits—and, it must be added, of innumerable quotations—you may prevent a marriage between a brother and a sister and discover their father's murderer. Otherwise, it is a story of the thorough-paced "Penny Dreadful" order. Robert Rowlandson, *alias* Kent, in particular, is a vulgar edition of Jonas Chuzzlewit—a cowardly wretch who has to take large draughts of brandy to enable him to commit his murders, and who dies making commonplace metaphysical observations such as that "Matter was and is eternal," and that "To die is to sink into oblivion." There is in Mr. Henry, however, some melodramatic capacity, and he might do better than *Bainbridge Holme* if he were a little more—or perhaps we should say, a little less—in earnest.

Mr. Grant is manifestly writing too rapidly. Moreover, although through all his literary career he has had one foot on sea and one on shore, military exploits have ever fired his fancy to more purpose than the romance of the mercantile marine. These circumstances are adequate to account for the inferiority of *Derval Hampton* to its immediate—if it was its immediate—predecessor, *The Cameronians*. The plot is of the oldest, simplest, and crudest, consisting of the adventures of a gallant, hot-headed young fellow, who is very nearly cheated out of his rights, and done to death by a murderous step-mother and her son, who

is in every way worthy of her. The conclusion, or "Nemesis" as Mr. Grant styles it, in which villany is unmasked and conquered, is hurried to slovenliness. Mr. Grant's villains, especially those of the coarse, "inferior fiend" type, are generally well drawn. But his readers will decline to give a good place even in the Chamber of Horrors to Mr. Reeve Rudderhead, who is described as

"a piratical, bull-dog looking fellow, about forty years of age, with a broad, swollen visage, which, where it was not red by grog blossoms and blotches, was covered by cuts and scars, won in fisticuff battles in the vicinity of Wapping or the Docks."

Mr. Grant is generally happy in his names. Thus his conversion in one of his older fictions of the plain—dismally plain—Scotch "Rab Dalhoosie" into the good Mussulman "Rabd-al-Hoosi" was a happy hit. This power of nomenclature does not desert him even in *Derval Hampton*; there is more than the ordinary novelist's ingenuity in giving a lawyer the name of "De Murrer." Is it not sailing somewhat too near the wind of reality, however, to designate the firm that employs his hero as "Dugald Curry & Co."? There is vigour, of course, in *Derval Hampton*, as in everything the author writes, and this alone preserves it from absolute condemnation as unworthy of him.

Miss Tytler has done wisely in naming her delightful "Sketches of Girls' Lives" from the first. The three Cockburn girls, living in the country while their heavy "forensic papa" makes money and gives dull dinners in Edinburgh, are admirable Scotch characters. In particular, Jane, the chief of the "Frights," impatient, prone to command, *vice-like* rather than pretty or comely, but warm-hearted and shrewd, recalls the best of Miss Ferrier's forgotten gallery. By the side of "The Three Frights," "The Three Beauties" look pale and ineffectual; and the hero who wins Lady Maria is rather a muscular Christian of the modern type than a healthy minded nobleman of the period in which he is supposed to live. "Bobinette" comes next in excellence to "The Three Frights;" and although the marriage with which it closes is brought on rather hurriedly, so nervously conscientious a child of Nature as Robina Mills was bound at some time to find a protector in the person of a husband. There is much humour—here and there, however, tending to degenerate into "a fit of the giggles"—in Miss Tytler's representation of the tremors and jealousies and pinched proprieties of rival schoolmistresses in the vicinity of Gorse Common.

WILLIAM WALLACE.

#### CURRENT LITERATURE.

*Old Yorkshire*. Edited by William Smith, F.S.A.S. (Longmans.) Some months ago we noticed favourably a volume bearing this title, and Mr. Smith appears to have found matter of sufficient interest to fill a second one. The various articles it contains are all of considerable value, and many of them of permanent interest not only to Yorkshiremen, but to the scientific and literary world at large. Canon Raine contributes an admirable introductory chapter, written as only he could write it; and

his appeal against modern iconoclasm is deserving of general attention. The volume is profusely and judiciously illustrated. The portraits are generally excellent, but the palm will be awarded to an exquisite one of Lord Houghton which faces the title-page. Mr. Smith has unhesitatingly our word of encouragement.

*Rugby School Register.* Vol. I. (Rivingtons.) Although an edition of the Rugby Admission Register was published so late as 1867, a new one is welcome for the reason that the entries are annotated. The annotations, so far as they go, are useful and interesting, but they might often be more elaborate and more precise as to dates. A thing of this sort worth doing at all is worth doing well and thoroughly, and this cannot exactly be said in the present instance. The annotations are mainly confined to the more modern entries, and will be valuable a century hence. The present volume extends from 1675 to 1849; but of the entries from the former date to 1692 not more than half-a-dozen are annotated, and comparatively few for half-a-century later, and these are precisely the ones of most importance to biographers and historians. An exhaustive Index adds greatly to the value of the book.

*The Enchiridion of Epictetus and the Golden Verses of Pythagoras.* Translated into English Prose and Verse, with Notes and Scriptural References, together with some Original Poems, by the Hon. Thomas Talbot. (Sampson Low.) This volume is a remarkable specimen of literary "survival." The occasional verses go back at least as far as the Queen's coronation; and they are not without unmistakable echoes of the least magical of the "Irish Melodies," though one of the prettiest—on a glen in Newfoundland (the volume is dedicated to an ex-governor of that colony)—concludes as follows:—

"Within thy narrow witching bounds  
How could I wish to make my rounds,  
Or sit within thy wavy bowers  
In summer's silent vesper hours,  
Sweet spot! and pore o'er Nature's page;  
Or read some well-tuned poet's lay—  
Not Byron's wild, unbridled rage,  
Not Moore's o'erflushed and luscious flowers,  
Oh, Thomson! Goldsmith! Bloomfield!  
Gray!"

If the mantle of any poet of the eighteenth century has fallen upon Mr. Talbot it is the mantle of Pim, who paraphrased Ecclesiastes in much the same vein as Mr. Talbot paraphrases Epictetus, though one fancies that Mr. Talbot, as one born out of due time, is vaguer and more pointless than most eighteenth-century versifiers. If it were not for the analytical illustration prefixed to each series of paraphrases it would often be hard to trace the connexion of ideas. It should be added that the copious Scripture parallels are taken from Roman Catholic versions; and that the erudition and the criticism in the lengthy Introduction to the "Golden Verses" which Mr. Talbot seriously ascribes to Pythagoras are both of a superannuated character.

*Wit and Wisdom of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield.* Collected from his Writings and Speeches. (Longmans.) Whatever literature the memory of Lord Beaconsfield may yet bring forth, we doubt whether any more characteristic monument will be raised to him than this. His novels, taken altogether, will scarcely support a permanent literary reputation; and his speeches, which are promised us shortly in a collected form, are still less likely to form the basis of a school of political philosophy. The truth is that half the secret of Lord Beaconsfield's success, alike in letters and in politics, was due to his ready wit. Amid a crowd of laborious dullards,

he was the one versatile man. To appreciate this side of his character, it is necessary to observe him only when at his best; and this is just what the present collection of his good sayings allows us to do. Whether they come from his novels or from his speeches does not matter in the least. It is the "wit" we look for, not the "wisdom;" and so far the title of this book is a misnomer. No one, we venture to say, will turn to it as a political catechism; but all may find in it intellectual refreshment and the charm of verbal brilliancy. Praise can be given to the compiler only for the design. He (or, we shrewdly suspect, she) has carried it through in the most matter-of-fact manner. He has arranged it under alphabetical headings, somewhat arbitrarily chosen; and then he has merely repeated these headings as a table of contents, without giving any real index. Was it kind to reproduce the following apophthegm from *Tancred*, and carefully catalogue it under the title "Queen"?—

"He who serves Queens may expect backsheesh."

*The Annual Register* (Rivingtons) is such a valuable work, and we personally make so much use of it, that we may be pardoned for suggesting a few changes which would, in our opinion, be improvements. As an alphabetically classified table of contents, the Index leaves nothing to be desired; but this is not exactly what an index should be. It requires an effort of thought to associate any name wanted with the particular heading under which it is arranged. This difficulty may be lessened by practice, though not even so entirely removed; and the very object of an index is to save trouble. M. Renan's Hibbert Lectures, delivered in London, are to be found under "Ecclesiastical," and again under "France" (the very last place we should have looked for them), but not under "Renan" or "Hibbert." The double pagination, which we regard as a deformity in the body of the book, becomes a positive defect in the Index. Again, we beg leave to think that the chapter on "Literature" is either too short or too long. A general survey of literary productiveness during the year seems a great thing to ask for; but formal criticism of a few books chosen apparently at random is inappropriate and unnecessary. To conclude, and sum up our fault-finding, the compilers throughout seem to have thought somewhat too much of their own literary talents, and somewhat too little of the needs of their readers. A book of reference should be more concise; more full and more accurate it could not be.

"Men Worth Remembering." *William Carey.* By James Culross, D.D. (Hodder and Stoughton.) About a year ago we noticed the *Life of Henry Martyn* in this same series. With not a few points of similarity between the two men, the points of difference are yet more striking. Martyn was a Cambridge senior wrangler and a chaplain in the service of the East India Company. Carey was a Northamptonshire shoemaker, a Baptist—an "interloper," in the official language of those days. Martyn, dying while yet young, left behind him little more than a name and an example, and one of the most pathetic stories in missionary annals. Carey spent forty years in India, and, in conjunction with his friends Marshman and Ward, accomplished a work that is still bearing conspicuous fruit. Much, again, of the pathos of Martyn's history is due to an unhappy attachment; while Carey was three times married, and left sons to preach the Gospel after him. Carey, in short, accomplished the work of his life. He set up the most active printing-press in India—the historic press of Serampur; he translated the Bible into several Oriental languages; and he laid the foundations of the existing system of vernacular education. Above

all, in his own person he won the battle of religious freedom in India. The work before us, quite apart from its primary object, has a special value in recording an important chapter of Anglo-Indian history—the enlightenment of the Company's administration, as represented by the change from Wellesley to Bentinck. With the exception of an occasional Scotticism, it seems to us very well written. In the difficult matter of spelling native names, and in the still more difficult matter of respecting native prejudices, Dr. Culross has exercised moderation; and we can recommend his book to a wider circle than usually read missionary literature.

*Encounters with Wild Beasts.* By Parker Gillmore. Illustrated by Alfred T. Elwes. (W. H. Allen.) This is a very good book of its kind. The writer is a well-known traveller, and most of the stories he tells are derived from his own experience. The rest are taken, with due acknowledgment, from authoritative books of sport, such as those of Mr. G. P. Sanderson and Col. Pollock (misprinted, by-the-way, Pollock in at least two places). On principle, we may object to such a system of book-making; but in the present case the mixture has been skilfully and honestly concocted. And it is only due to Mr. Gillmore to say that his own adventures are among the most exciting and the best told. Boys will read anything about wild beasts and savage life. It is well when they have such books as this put before them, which are not strung together by an imaginative story, and do not violate the facts of natural history. Here, as elsewhere, truth (to those who can see it and tell it) is stranger than fiction.

*Footprints: Nature seen on its Human Side.* By Sarah Tytler. (Marshall, Japp and Co.)

"The field of the blue air is a grand and glorious field—too great to be approached except very humbly and very reverently. At the same time, we know that men and women's handwriting is there, as it is everywhere in Nature, over which God made men and women kings and queens."

This is the way this book commences, and the first sentence is a fair sample of the whole. The letter-press has evidently been written to make use of some not very remarkable woodcuts, and, if uninteresting, is harmless.

*A Critical Review of American Politics.* By Charles Reemelin. (Trübner.) This belongs to the class of books which the reviewer may be excused for candidly announcing that he declines to read. It consists of 630 pages, printed more closely than usual, containing the reflections of an Americanised German upon the party politics of the United States. Only the other day we received from America a polite invitation to express our views about their currency question. We felt it our duty to hold our peace; and similarly with this book. We have read enough of it to form an opinion about its literary style; and what that opinion is may be inferred from the author's nationality. We leave it to the unfortunate writers of political leading articles to have a cut-and-dried opinion about the Republican and Democratic parties and the "spoils-system."

*Flying South: Recollections of France and its Littoral.* By "Vacuus Viator." (Kegan Paul, Trench and Co.) Nothing could well be slighter than this little book, or more opposed in character to the preceding. We have read it right through with interest; and we venture to say that anyone who opens it will do the same. And yet there is in it nothing new or pretending to be new. It simply embodies the notes about France and its coast (not "littoral") made by a person who possesses that most valuable of gifts—a straightforward pen. Literary pretentiousness is the heaviest weight that can drag a book down, and ought to be the chief



of crimes in the eyes of a critic. Above everything else, books are meant to be read. This we have read with much pleasure. That is all.

*Catalogue of the Liverpool Free Public Library.* Reference Department. Part II. (Liverpool: Marples and Co.) This portly volume would afford an excellent opportunity, if we had but space, to expatiate upon the development of public libraries in England. Prof. Goldwin Smith has recently said, in the course of his suggestive address at Dublin, that in America the cheapness of books, caused by the absence of international copyright, is tending to depress the library system. In this country there is no such cause, and no such tendency. Here a single library, in the course of ten years, has accumulated books which require a supplementary catalogue of 700 pages, containing nearly 40,000 entries, of which about one-sixth are foreign. And, again, notice the elaborate system of cataloguing, unthought of we know now how few years ago. The fundamental principle is to give authors, subjects, titles, and other entries all in one alphabet. So much for a person who merely wants to find the place of a book on the shelves, and has only a vague notion what to look for. But the aim of our modern cataloguer goes far beyond this. He attempts to compile a work which shall be useful also to the student of literature. He writes out the titles with comparatively little abridgement; he adds an enumeration of pages, plates, maps, portraits, and other bibliographical details; he analyses the contents of collected works; he is not afraid to add occasional notes about the rarity or special character of any particular book; and, above all, he scrupulously affixes the date of publication. A catalogue compiled in this way becomes the epitome of a library. We know not whether we are ever destined to visit the building in William Brown Street, Liverpool; but we are sure that we shall make frequent use of this volume, which has been so industriously and accurately compiled by Messrs. Cowell and May.

*Journal of the Derbyshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.* (London and Derby: Bemrose.) This Journal keeps up its high character. The volume before us contains some genealogical papers which seem to be compiled with most careful accuracy. There are also some interesting papers concerning proceedings in the Court of Exchequer as to the new buildings at Chatsworth. Among them is a long and important mason's bill which throws a flood of light on the manner in which that vast palace came to be what it is. It seems that the marble used in its construction was imported from Holland, and that a person was sent over to select the blocks and bring them over. They came by way of Hull and Bawtry. Mr. S. O. Addy communicates an inventory of the furniture in Beauchief Hall, taken in 1691, which contains many words which will be interesting to students of dialect. We apprehend that he is wrong in explaining "sealed chaires" to mean chairs with panelled backs. We are of opinion that they were chairs with canopies to them. These canopies, though sometimes employed for purposes of state, were not usually so; their object was to protect the persons sitting under them from draughts. The Rev. Francis Jourdain contributes a paper on the heraldic stained glass in Ashburne church, with many well-executed coloured illustrations. We are very glad to see this, not only because the paper is a good one in itself, but also because it will preserve to future ages some memorial of these interesting shields. Stained glass is more liable to destruction than other relics of mediæval art that time has spared; and it is the one thing which the modern race of church restorers, who are doing so much to render our ecclesiastical buildings

uninteresting, are more especially bent upon replacing with modern work. Miss Ussher publishes a drawing of the monument of a chrisom child which exists in Croxall church. It commemorates an infant of the Curzon family, and is interesting as it shows the way in which infants were bandaged. Mr. Wallis's sketch of the early history of printing in Derbyshire is a sketch only; it is, however, not without some importance, as it proves how backward we were in the use of the printing-press as compared with our Continental neighbours.

*Transactions of the Cumberland Association for the Advancement of Literature and Science.* Edited by J. G. Goodchild. Part V. (Carlisle: G. and T. Coward.) The contents of this number of a very useful journal are of unequal merit. The account of Capt. Huddart is an addition to biographical literature, as it tells us much that we did not know before of a very devoted, if not remarkably celebrated, man of science. Mr. Jackson's note on Inglewood Forest contains references from which anyone who would work on the subject as it deserves would gain many a clue, but it is not satisfactory if looked upon as anything beyond a set of disjointed memoranda. Mr. Kendall's paper on the distribution of boulders in West Cumberland is much more thorough. It is a distinct addition to our knowledge of the geology of the district. Mr. Dawson's paper on the moths of Cumberland will be found very useful by entomologists. It has evidently been compiled with great care, and is, so far as we have been able to test it, singularly free from error. We think, however, we have detected an omission. In speaking of the goat moth (*Cossus ligniperda*) Mr. Dawson says that "the larva feeds on the solid wood of the oak, the elm, the willow, and the apple." Does it not feed also on the ash in Cumberland? We cannot call to mind that we have ever seen ash-trees in that county which show marks of injury from this pest, but much of the hedgerow ash in the Eastern Counties and the West Riding of Yorkshire is more or less damaged by it.

*Thomas Carlyle: ein Lebensbild und Goldkörnchen aus seinen Werken.* Dargestellt, ausgewählt, übertragen durch Eugen Oswald. (Leipzig.) Dr. Oswald, who has done good service in making German readers acquainted with the genius and writings of Landor, supplies in the present volume an excellent introduction to the study of Carlyle, with about 100 pages of translated selections from Carlyle's works. "The Life of Schiller," which we are perhaps inclined to underrate as a pre-Carlylian work of Carlyle, is styled by Dr. Oswald an "epoch-making book;" it is the first Life of a German poet by one who was not a German. "The French Revolution," in which so great a part is played by individual leaders, is contrasted with Michelet's History, in which the People becomes a kind of mystical collective hero. At the end of his life Michelet admitted that he under-estimated the influence of individuals. As to Carlyle's style, while pointing out some peculiar words and turns of speech borrowed from the German, Dr. Oswald observes that much that is commonly described as of German origin is really part of the writer's idiosyncrasy. A chronological list of Carlyle's writings, with a catalogue of books and Review articles—English, French, and German—treating of Carlyle, adds to the usefulness of Dr. Oswald's well-planned little volume.

We have received the first volumes of two books of a very similar character—*The Earl of Beaconsfield and his Times*, by Alexander Charles Ewald (William Mackenzie); and *William Ewart Gladstone and his Contemporaries*, by Thomas Archer (Blackie and Son). They are both hand-

somely illustrated with portraits of political personages, and both very creditably got-up as regards paper and binding. Neither is exactly literature; and to say anything more about their contents would be to trespass into politics. Doubtless they are each destined to have a wide, but not co-extensive, circulation.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW are conferring a benefit upon that portion of the public who not only read but buy books, by their issue of "cheap editions" of standard novels. We have already acknowledged some four or five this autumn; and now we have on our table three more, by no means the worst of the series. These are *The Trumpet Major*, by Thomas Hardy, which was reviewed in the ACADEMY of December 11, 1880; *The Vicar's Daughter*, by George MacDonald; and *An English Squire*, by C. R. Coleridge. Cheap editions are the real test of popularity; and it is gratifying to find that popularity sometimes goes with merit. Messrs. Griffith and Farran deserve similar thanks for their republication in handy form of *Gladys, the Reaper*, by Anne Beale. *Out on the Pampas*, by G. A. Henty, issued by the same publishers in their "Boys' Own Favourite Library," appeals to a public not yet demoralised by circulating libraries.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

ON the evening of October 6, Prof. Seeley delivered a most interesting address at Birmingham, as President of the Historical Society. Its main feature was an earnest insistence on the desirability of studying the history of Europe since the French Revolution on the same accurate plan as that on which the history of earlier periods has been studied, and on the need of organisation of societies for historical study, if such study is to be regarded as special and scientific.

THE election of Mr. Thorley to the wardenship of Wadham, after nearly thirty years' work as a tutor, will be very pleasing not only to the members of his own college, which owes so much to him, but also to the wider class of Oxford men who have felt, however indirectly, the advantages of his personal influence. This is, we believe, the first headship at Oxford, except Merton, to be filled by a layman.

THE Rev. Stopford A. Brooke having accepted the post of Principal of the College for Men and Women in Queen Square, Bloomsbury, it is anticipated that the new term will be one of unusual activity. It may be added that the principles and management of the college remain unchanged.

WE are glad to hear that the late Dr. Guest's archaeological papers are being collected and edited by Prof. Stubbs, and that his *English Rhythms*, of which the scarcity has been long regretted, is being revised for a new edition by Prof. Skeat.

WE hear that there is to be a debate on Mr. Browning's poetry both at the Cambridge and Oxford Unions during the present term.

WE understand that Mr. Fawcett has ready for the press a new edition of his *Free Trade and Protection*, in which he has discussed the more recent development of Protection in foreign countries, and the Fair Trade movement in England. This will be published by Messrs. Macmillan and Co. in a few weeks, in a cheaper form than the previous editions of the book.

MR. E. A. BRAYLEY HODGETTS has just finished his translation from the Russian of Prof. Storojenko's monograph on Robert Greene, which will form an introduction to one of the series of reprints that Dr. Grosart is bringing out under the name of "The Huth Library."

MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NORGATE will publish in a few days a new work by Mr. George Jacob Holyoake, entitled *Joseph Rayner Stevens, Preacher and Political Orator*. No life of the famous agitator has hitherto appeared. The book discusses the "two kinds of Conservatism" prevalent—Mr. Stephens representing one. Mr. Holyoake defines and analyses both species, which often perplex the political reader. Mr. Stephens was the son of a former President of the Wesleyan Conference; and he and his friend Count Montalembert jointly formed a plan of popular agitation for Conservative objects, which they both pursued through life.

MESSRS. REEVES AND TURNER are about to publish a somewhat novel work, to be entitled *A History of the Cries of London: Ancient and Modern*, by Mr. Charles Hindley, author of *The Curiosities of Street Literature*; *The Life and Times of Old Jemmy Cutnach, the Ballad-monger, late of Seven Dials*; &c. &c. The present work will contain over 200 wood-cuts, many of which are by Thomas and John Bewick and their pupils, and were purchased at the sale of the Hugo collection by Messrs. Sotheby and Co. in 1877. The edition, we are informed, is limited to 500 copies.

THE Rev. Prof. Watts, of Belfast, is engaged in writing a new work, entitled *The Newer Criticism and the Analogy of the Faith*, in reply to the Rev. W. Robertson Smith's *Lectures on the Old Testament in the Jewish Church*. It will be published in about a fortnight by Messrs. T. and T. Clark, of Edinburgh.

THE November number of *Good Words* will contain an article by J. Harris Stone upon the Viking ship which was discovered last year in Norway. The illustrations are from photographs taken by the author.

IN a few days will be ready *The Songs and Sonnets of Robert Millhouse*, edited by Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, of the Nottingham Free Library. Mr. Briscoe will furnish a long account of Millhouse's career as an introduction to the book, which promises to be an excellent addition to local poetical literature.

MESSRS. W. H. ALLEN AND Co. announce the following works for publication during the present season:—*Diplomatic Study on the Crimean War*, Translated from the original, as published by the Russian Foreign Office; *The Military History of the Madras Engineers and Pioneers*, by Major H. M. Vibart, Royal (late Madras) Engineers, with numerous maps and plans; *On and Off Duty: being Leaves from an Officer's Note-book*—part i. "Turania," part ii. "Lemuria," part iii. "Columbia"—by Capt. S. P. Oliver; *Ashé Pyee, the Superior Country*; or, *The Great Attractions of Burma to British Enterprise and Commerce*, by Col. W. F. B. Laurie, author of *Our Burmese Wars and Relations with Burma*; *The Plays and Poems of Charles Dickens*, collected and edited by Mr. Richard Herne (Shepherd); the first volume of *Thirty-eight Years in India, from Jaganath to the Himalaya Mountains*, by Mr. William Tayler, late Commissioner of Patna, illustrated; *Prairie and Forest: a Description of the Game of North America, with Personal Adventures in its Pursuit*, by Mr. Parker Gillmore ("Ubique"); *History of Shorthand, with an Analysis and Review of its Present Condition and Prospects at Home and Abroad*, by Mr. Thomas Anderson; *Egypt: Physical, Political, and Strategic*; together with an Account of its Engineering Capabilities and Agricultural Resources, by Mr. Griffin W. Vyse; *An Easy System of Calisthenics and Drilling, including Light Dumb-bell and Indian Club Exercises, for the use of Schools*, by T. A. McCarthy, chief instructor at Mr. Moss's Gymnasium, Brighton; *Queer People from the*

Swedish of *Leah*, by Mr. Albert Alberg; an Illustrated Edition of *Twenty-one Days in India: being the Tour of Sir Ali Baba, K.C.B.*, by the late George Aberigh Mackay; *The English in India: New Sketches*, by Ede Valbezen, late consul-general at Calcutta, Translated from the French by a Diplomat; *Accented Five-Figure Logarithms of the Numbers from 1 to 99999 without Differences*, Arranged and Accented by Mr. Louis D'A. Jackson; *Shadows of the Past*, by Jessie Sale Lloyd, authoress of *Ruth Everingham*, &c.; *On Board a Union Steamer*, by Capt. S. P. Oliver; *Pioneering in the Far East, and Journeys to California in 1849 and to the White Sea in 1878*, by Mr. Ludwig Verner Helmes, with illustrations from original sketches and photographs; *The Queen's Speeches in Parliament*, edited by F. Sydney Ensor, author of *From Nubia to Dar-fur*; *The Jesuits, a Complete History of their Public and Private Proceedings from the Foundation of the Order to the Present Time*, by Mr. Theodor Grussinger; *Reginald Barentyne; or, Liberty without Limit: a Tale of Our Time*, by Mr. Frederick George Lee; and *Franz Liszt, Artist and Man*, by Mr. L. Ramann, Translated from the German.

MESSRS. KERBY AND ENDEAN will shortly publish *White and Red*, by Mr. J. R. Henslowe, author of *Dorothy Compton: a Story of the '15*. *White and Red* deals with the Terror and the insurrection of La Vendée, the principal incidents being matters of fact duly recorded in the annals of the families of the principal characters in the story. The same publishers are preparing a cheap edition of *Dorothy Compton*; and they have also nearly ready for publication *The Larger Hope; or, Salvation for All, including the Rejecters of the Gospel*, examined in a review of the Rev. Samuel Cox's *Salvator Mundi*, by the Rev. Thomas Powell; and the fifth edition of *The Gospel according to Satan*, by Mr. Standish Grey.

MESSRS. CRAMER AND Co. announce that they have purchased from the representative of the late J. W. Balfe the entire copyright, as regards both representation and publication, of his opera, *The Painter of Antwerp*, and will shortly publish it for the first time. The music was composed by Balfe in 1856; the words were adapted by Mr. W. A. Barrett from the Italian of Piave—*Pittore e Duca*.

ON the completion of "Gleanings of Lancashire Lore," by Mr. William Andrews, of the Hull Literary Club, now appearing in the *Ashton Reporter*, the articles will be issued in book form. At an early date a new work from the pen of Mr. Andrews will be published under the title of *The Book of Oddities*.

THE *Glasgow Evening News* will issue a special New Year's number, the story in which will be from the pen of Mr. Harry Blyth. The same gentleman is also writing a Christmas tale for Messrs. Cassell, Petter, Galpin and Co., and a third for the *Manchester Weekly Post*.

MESSRS. S. W. PARTRIDGE AND Co. will issue on October 20 the first number of a new paper, entitled *The Commonwealth: a Storehouse of Christian Testimony*, edited by Mr. Henry Varley, Mr. W. T. Moore, and Mr. John W. Kirton.

AT an early date will be issued a new work by Mr. D. H. Edwards, of the *Brechin Advertiser*, under the title of *Modern Scottish Poets*.

MR. F. SHERLOCK has a work of fiction nearly ready under the title of *More than Conquerors: a Temperance Tale for Boys*.

AT the first meeting of the ninth session of the New Shakspeare Society, held on Friday, October 14, not only was a "resolution of sympathy with Mrs. Garfield and her family on the death of President Garfield, long a member of

the society," brought forward, but also proposals that Mrs. Garfield be elected the first honorary member of the society, that a set of the society's publications be presented to the Hiram college at which Gen. Garfield was formerly Professor of Literature, and that H.R.H. Prince Leopold, one of the vice-presidents of the society, be requested to convey the resolutions to Mrs. Garfield.

THE Clifton Shakspeare Society began, on October 1, the work of its seventh session. Mr. Edward Thelwall, M.A., was elected president for the session, during which the society will consider the following works in the order named:—*Titus Andronicus*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *As You Like It*, *Poems and Sonnets*, *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Caesar*, and *All's Well that Ends Well*.

DR. F. LANDMANN, of Giessen, who is now re-editing here the old French Romance of *Mont St.-Michel*, and supplying from a later MS. the six leaves that the older MS. edited by Francisque Michel wants, has written a very able and important essay on *Euphuism* (Giessen: Keller), proving incontestably, by a long series of parallelisms, that euphuism came to us from Spain, and not from Italy—as some English critics have maintained; and that it was not of home growth, as Prof. A. W. Ward contends, but a direct importation of the style and thoughts of "the Reverend father in God Don Antony of Guévára, Byshop of Guadix, Preacher and Chronicler to Charles the fifth, late of that name Emperor," as Sir Thomas North calls him. In short, Lyly's *Euphuus* is only an adaptation of Guévára. Dr. Landmann's essay establishes—for the first time, we may say—the very strong influence of Spanish literature on English in Elizabeth's time. It states admirably the characteristics of euphuism, following the acute paper of Dr. Weymouth on the subject in the *Philological Society's Transactions*. It shows how Sidney dealt the heaviest blow to euphuism by his introduction of the Arcadian or shepherd style of Montemayor, and how Shakspeare's predecessors had almost abandoned euphuism when he began to write. It points out that in *Love's Labour's Lost*, &c., the style ridiculed was not euphuism, but the later Spanish exaggerated Gongorism; and that only in Falstaff's speech as the King to Prince Hal—"for, though the camomile, the more it is trodden on, the faster it grows, yet youth, the more it is wasted, the sooner it wears"—does Shakspeare use the special parisonic antithesis, alliteration, and Plinian natural-history similes of euphuism. Dr. Landmann then tracks the main later followers of Lyly; and his last chapter deals with the extravagances of the styles that succeeded euphuism, the Arcadian, Gongoric, and the hexameters and long compounds of Dubartas in Abraham Fraunce. Dr. Landmann's essay is one of those that at once confer a reputation on their writers. He has rendered good service to all students of English and Spanish literature. On Mr. Furnivall's recommendation, Prof. Vollmöller has arranged with Dr. Landmann to edit four text-books in his English series, one in each of the four styles above-named—Euphuism, Arcadianism, Gongorism, and Dubartasism. Dr. Landmann will also read a paper on the subject before the New Shakspeare Society, probably at its February meeting.

COUNT GIACOMO MANZONI is about to publish, at Bologna, *Studi di Bibliografia analitica intorno a Francesco da Bologna, a Bernardo Cennini e ai primi Libri a Stampa di Caratteri per i Scultori pe' Miniatori et pe' Calligrafi*.

HERR WILHELM ARNOLD will publish shortly with the firm of Perthes, of Gotha, the second volume of his *German History*, being the first portion of the history of the Frankish period,



ending with the death of Charles the Great. The first volume of his work, entitled *Deutsche Urzeit*, which appeared three years ago, has already reached a third edition.

KARL EMIL FRANZOS' new novel will be published immediately at Breslau. It is entitled *Ein Kampf um's Recht*.

It is our duty to give all publicity to the following correction of a statement that incidentally appeared in the ACADEMY of September 10, to the effect that the New York *Nation* "has distinctly developed in the direction of politics since it became the weekly edition of the *Evening Post*." The editor of the *Nation* writes to us:—

"The *Nation* has during the last three months given more space, proportionately and absolutely, to literature than ever before. It contains more political articles, because it contains more pages."

#### FRENCH JOTTINGS.

At its last meeting, the Académie française constituted its bureau for the current quarter. M. Xavier Marmier was elected director, in the place of M. Renan; and M. Legouvé, chancellor. It falls upon the director to receive new members. There are now three fauteuils vacant, those lately occupied by Littré, Dufaure, and Duvergier de Hauranne. Among those who have already announced their candidature are MM. Pasteur, Paul Janet, Sully-Prudhomme, François Coppée, and Eugène Manuel. The names of MM. Victor Cherbuliez and Edouard Pailleron are also mentioned as possible candidates. The election to all three vacancies, though not yet fixed, will probably take place some time in November.

M. EMILE ZOLA's forthcoming volume, to be entitled *Documents littéraires*, will comprise chapters on Chateaubriand, Victor Hugo, Alfred de Musset, Théophile Gautier, Contemporary Poets, George Sand, Dumas fils, Sainte-Beuve, Contemporary Criticism, and Morality in Literature.

THE fourth volume of M. Gambetta's *Discours et Plaidoyers politiques*, edited by M. Joseph Reinach, is published this week (Paris: Charpentier). It covers the period from June 1873 to November 1875, and includes three speeches delivered at the annual Hoche banquet at Versailles, and funeral orations at the tombs of d'Alton Shee, Viox, and Quinet.

At the meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres on September 30, M. Barbier de Meynard communicated the first portion of his "Investigations into the Foreign Elements which have contributed to the Growth of Islam and of the Musalman Philosophical Sects."

A NARRATIVE of M<sup>me</sup>. Sarah Bernhardt's tour in America, written by one of her companions, has just been published at Paris (Maurice Dreyfous), and is exciting a good deal of attention.

UNDER the title of *Un Poète du Foyer*, M. Coquelin aîné has published (Paris: Paul Ollendorf) a study of M. Eugène Manuel, the author of *Les Ouvriers* and *La Robe*, originally delivered as a "conference" at Belleville.

THE last addition to the "Nouvelle Bibliothèque classique," printed by M. D. Jouaust for the Librairie des Bibliophiles, is the *Maximes et Réflexions diverses de La Rochefoucauld*, edited, with a Preface and notes, by M. J. F. Thénard. The next volume will be the *Théâtre de Marivaux*, to be followed by the *Théâtre de Molière*. This series is noted not only for the beauty of its typography, but also for its scholarly accuracy of the text, and its preservation of the original spelling.

M. MARIUS FONTANE is advancing rapidly with the important work—popular, and at the same time learned—which he is undertaking in the province of universal history. Only a few months ago he published a first volume, entitled *L'Inde védique* (Paris: Lemerre); and now a second has appeared—*Les Iraniens: Zoroastre*.

THE new volume of the Bibliothèque de Philosophie contemporaine, published by Germer Baillière, is Mr. James Sully's *Pessimism*, translated by MM. A. Bertrand and Gérard.

#### OBITUARY.

JAKOB LÖKKE.

It is more than fidelity to a friendship of ten years' standing that impels me to record the sudden and painful death, at Berlin, on September 29, of a man who, without being a great writer, deserved well of his own country and of ours. It will be a shock to not a few literary people in England to learn that, on his return journey from Carlsbad to Norway, Overlærer Jakob Olaus Lökke, of the Cathedral Schools in Christiania, broke a blood-vessel and died after a very few hours' illness. He was often in England, he cultivated his English friends, and he spoke and wrote our language with a marvellous facility. His literary career was chiefly marked by successive efforts to introduce the study of our literature and language into Norway. He was born at Throndhjem on February 13, 1829, went to school in the Arctic Regions, at Tromsø, and from 1855 to 1861 was himself the principal of an important provincial school at Lillehammer, where for five years he edited a newspaper, the *Kristiansamstidende*. At last a career in the capital was opened to him, and he became first *adjunkt* and then *overlærer* at the Cathedral Schools in Christiania. He threw himself into literature and politics. In the latter he became a high-and-dry conservative, of a kind very rare to meet with in Norway—a Tory of the most grimly despairing species. In the former he gradually won a place as the best pedagogic writer in the country. His *Engelske Grammatik*, his *Engelske Stiløvelser*, his *Engelske Læsebog*, and his *Engelske Forfatter i Udvalg* are models of what a school-book of the highest class should be, and of great interest even to an English reader. I understand that his Norwegian grammar, *Modersmaalets Grammatik*, no less than these, deserves the position it has secured as the best of its class. Lökke's last publication was an edition of the text of *Sketches by Boz*, with copious Norwegian notes and an Introduction. The Norse idioms added to the fourth edition of Ferrel and Repp's dictionary (1873) were from the same pen. His health never was strong, and his energy was too glowing for so uncertain a constitution; he broke down at last, at the early age of fifty-two, under a complication of disorders. In so narrow a society as that of Christiania, such men as he are too valuable not to be deeply regretted.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

WE regret to hear, by telegram, of the death of Dr. Holland, editor-in-chief of Scribner's popular illustrated magazine, now called *The Century*, who was also widely known and influential throughout the United States as poet, essayist, and lecturer. Dr. Holland died suddenly of heart disease at his house in New York on the afternoon of October 12.

THE death is announced at Prague, on October 1, of a retired musical professor, Franz Hilmar, at the age of seventy-nine years. Prof. Hilmar has the credit of being the inventor of the polka. About forty years ago he composed the first polka that ever appeared in print, both the music and the step being taken from a popular

Bohemian country dance. In Czech the word *polka* means "half;" the analogy of meaning is obvious. The first polka ever written was the *Esmeralda-polka*.

THE death is also announced of the veteran Paris publisher, M. Parent Desbarres, from whose house so many important Catholic works have issued during the last half-century, including the *Encyclopédie catholique*, the *Collectio selecta SS. Ecclesiae patrum*, the *Collection d'Histoires complètes d'une grande Partie des Etats de l'Europe*, the *Histoire de Paris ancien et moderne*, and the works of Chateaubriand, Buffon, &c. M. Desbarres was himself a man of letters, and completed the great Benedictine edition of St. Gregory of Nazianzen by editing the second volume, comprising the poems and unprinted works.

ON September 30, one of the last of the contemporaries of Goethe, Oberst von Watzdorf, died at Weimar at a very advanced age. He was a frequent visitor at Goethe's house in Weimar, and an intimate friend of the poet's son, August von Goethe.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

ROBERT WILLIAM EYTON.

It was duly recorded in our obituary last month that the Rev. Robert William Eyton died at Winchfield House, Hampshire, on September 8. But the author of *The Antiquities of Shropshire* and the latest commentator on Domesday deserves too well of historical learning to be allowed to pass away without some further recognition of his literary achievements. He has left a gap which will not easily be filled up, for, although his works are comparatively little known to the general public, he was, in his own line of research, literally without a rival. The historian of Shropshire stands alone among county historians in his minute and accurate knowledge of the fiscal and judicial systems under the Anglo-Norman Kings, and in his marvellous familiarity with persons and events during the two centuries next after the Norman Conquest. His researches were concentrated on this period, and the parochial history of Shropshire is seldom carried down to a later date than the reign of Edward I.

The great Shropshire antiquary sprang from two well-known families of ancient gentry in that county; for his father was a cadet of the Eytons of Eyton, and his mother was the heiress of the Plowdens of Plowden. Both these families continue to enjoy the estates from which their respective ancestors took their names in the reign of Henry II.; but it is characteristic of the historian that he was contented to record the fact, without tracing the pedigree beyond his usual limits, or alluding to his own descent. His father, the Rev. John Eyton, held the family livings of Wellington and Eyton; and Robert William, the fourth son, was born at his father's vicarage on December 21, 1815. He was educated at Rugby, and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated with honours in 1839. His name appears in the second class in classics; but so good a scholar would not have missed a place in the first class if he had given less time and thought during his university career to English history and antiquities. After taking his degree, he entered holy orders, and was presented, in 1841, to the rectory of Ryton, in Salop, which was his home for the next twenty-two years. His great work, *The Antiquities of Shropshire*, was planned and written at Ryton, and was completed in 1861, after twenty years of patient industry which can only be appreciated by those who have been engaged in similar researches. It appeared in forty-eight parts, making twelve octavo volumes, and the original

price to subscribers was £12; but the edition was limited to 500 copies, and, since the extraordinary merit of the book has been recognised, it has become so scarce that a complete copy now fetches £25 at sales. This recognition came too late to benefit the author; and the book, to which he had devoted the best years of his life, was, with all its literary success, a pecuniary loss. This result, however, troubled him the less because he had worked from pure love of the subject, without expectation of profit or fame, and his enthusiastic interest in the antiquities of his native county made his labour its own reward.

It had been Eyton's ambition from boyhood to be the historian of Shropshire, which was still without a county history, although it abounds with old families proud of their descent, and is rich in historical associations. As soon, therefore, as he was settled at Ryton and had leisure and means, he set to work in earnest to qualify himself for such an undertaking. He laid his foundations deep, for he was not a mere dry-as-dust antiquary, and he had learnt from Stapleton, the editor of the *Rolls of the Norman Exchequer*, what a mass of new materials for history lies buried in the records, which can only be turned to account by those who can read between the lines. The science of interpreting the fiscal and judicial records of the Anglo-Norman period is of recent discovery, and was practically impossible before the publications of the Record Commission made a whole series accessible to scholars. Eyton was the first county historian who made himself thoroughly master of this difficult science, which laid bare to him the working of the feudal system in all its intricate details, and enabled him to clear up difficulties which had baffled generations of antiquaries. Every page of his book bears witness to his unrivalled knowledge of the tenure, descent, and distribution of land in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The study of ancient charters had a singular fascination for his acute and logical intellect, which delighted in picking out from a mass of unsorted and undated deeds the different stages through which a religious house or a baronial family grew to greatness from small beginnings. Genealogy was his strongest point, and is the most popular feature of his work; but his pedigrees are genealogical memoirs in which nothing is admitted without strict proof. He discarded, without mercy, the fictions and traditions of the heralds; and, by patient ingenuity, pieced out the true story from scattered charters and records. It is not too much to say that, so far as the Shropshire Baronage is concerned, he was the founder of Anglo-Norman genealogy, for the received pedigrees in Dugdale's *Baronage* are hopelessly wrong, and Stapleton's guidance is limited to detached points and incidental notices. Eyton's discovery of the true origin of the great house of Fitzalan, from which the Stuart Kings lineally descended, was left incomplete; and he failed in tracing back the ancestor of the family of La Zouche to the parent stock in Brittany. But his failures were rare, and arose in each case from his want of access to books of French provincial genealogy. Of English books and charters his knowledge was exhaustive; and his memoirs of the families of Le Strange, Mortimer, and De Lacy placed him at the head of living genealogists. They form a new chapter in baronial history, which was never attempted on the same scale before, for the career of each baron, with all his movements and dealings with the king, is mapped out, year by year, from the records of the period.

The labours of the Record Commission were interrupted for some unaccountable reason before they reached the fourteenth century. Eyton was too critical a scholar to attempt to make bricks without straw, and took warning from

the errors of his predecessors to discontinue his narrative when he lost the help of the printed records. But this concentration of research gave him the advantage proverbially possessed by *homines unius libri*, and enabled him to perform his work so thoroughly that no substantial addition can ever be made to it. It is an amusing proof of his familiarity with the details of King Stephen's struggle with the Empress Maud that the politics of those remote times are treated as living realities in his pages, and he writes as an enthusiastic partisan of the legitimate heir of the throne against the usurper. Every book, however, is more or less autobiographical; and Eyton was a Tory of the old school, with latent Jacobite instincts, as became a lineal descendant of the loyal Marquess of Powis, who abandoned his honours and estates to follow James II. to St. Germain's. His greatest admirers must regret that his scholarship and learning were not presented to the public in a more attractive form. The antiquities of Shropshire could scarcely fail to be dry; but there are degrees in dryness, and it must be confessed that Eyton's style is often dry to repulsiveness. He has, however, the great merit of being always clear and precise, and his meaning can never be mistaken; while his book is emphatically that of a scholar and a gentleman. This is nowhere more conspicuous than in the old-fashioned courtesy with which he half apologises for detecting and correcting the mistakes of other writers.

Eyton did not stay long at Ryton after he had finished his book, for he resigned his living in 1863, and removed to the South of England. The strain had been so great that his health suffered from overwork, and he gave up so completely the idea of writing any more that he sold his library when he left Ryton. But habits of study and research, when once formed, are seldom broken, and he soon began to verify and correct doubtful passages in *The Antiquities*, from which he was led on by degrees to embark on a new series of researches. He had peculiar notions on the subject of history, which he proceeded to apply to the eventful reign of Henry II. His previous studies had made him familiar with the events of this period, and he now digested them in annals under the title of *The Court, Household, and Itinerary of King Henry II.* This is a book literally without precedent, for it is strictly confined to a bare statement of accomplished facts and their dates, who did them, when and where they were done, and what was said about them by contemporaries. All considerations of personal qualities or conduct are deliberately excluded, and the author disclaims any pretension to be more than an honest and diligent compiler of facts for the use of the coming historian. He has collected and arranged in order of date every record of this reign within his knowledge, printed or in MS., and has appended to every charter the names of the attesting witnesses, so that the *Itinerary* of the King includes the public life and career of every member of his Household, Court, and Government, with details of every single legal and political transaction, charitable grant, and religious foundation of which any record has been preserved. The movements of Henry II. had to be guessed from the topographical and chronological clues supplied by charters, of which Eyton had no means of fixing the dates, except from the names of the witnesses or other internal evidence.

The chief work, however, of Eyton's later years was his Domesday studies. He worked upon the scholarlike principle that Domesday is its own best interpreter, and that the Survey can only be understood by a close study of the record itself. He was residing at this time in Dorset; and the first-fruits of his

Domesday studies was an *Analysis and Digest of the Survey* of that county, which was published in 1878. A series of elaborate tables, framed from an actual calculation of the figures in Domesday, enabled his readers to realise the population and distribution of Dorset in the reign of the Conqueror, and to compare them with existing conditions. But his grand discovery was his demonstration that the Domesday hide of land was a term denoting fiscal value rather than superficial quantity. The precise definition of the hide had hitherto been regarded as an insoluble problem, because it was assumed that it indicated a constant area; but Eyton's discovery fully accounts for the enormous variation in the acreage of different hides. His Dorset volume was followed in the next year (1879) by a similar digest of the Survey of Somerset, and in 1880 the same method was applied to the Survey of Staffordshire in a similar volume. These four quarto volumes are the latest, and in many respects the most important, contributions to Domesday literature.

Eyton's last printed work, of which he corrected the proofs a few weeks only before his death, was a series of notes on Staffordshire Records, with special reference to the Baronies which are enumerated in the *Liber Niger*. This paper was written in co-operation with Col. Wrottesley, and is in the course of being printed by the Salt Society, in which Eyton took a great interest. He had undertaken as a labour of love to make the Index of the first two volumes of their *Transactions*, but he had scarcely begun when failing health compelled him to relinquish the task to Mr. Parker, of Bugeley.

Eyton had suffered for some months from a most painful complaint, but it was not until the last five weeks that he gave up working at his favourite studies. The last two years of his life were spent at Winchfield House, near Basingstoke, in Hampshire, where he died on September 8. He married in 1839 Mary Elizabeth eldest daughter of the late Rev. James Watts, Vicar of Ledbury, by whom he had a numerous family. He has left a considerable number of MSS., some of which are more or less ready for the press. They will be offered for sale in London next March, and it will be a positive calamity to historical literature if they are not secured for some public library where they can be consulted and made use of.

E. C. WATERS.

#### MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

*The Nineteenth Century* for October is an exceptionally strong number. Lord Derby says about Ireland what many people are thinking; and he says it without the rhetorical flourish which makes leading articles such poor reading. Prof. Goldwin Smith "counts" Mr. Lucien Wolf heavily, and, indeed, somewhat savagely, in reference to the Jewish question. There seems some chance that the close of the present century will be marked with a recrudescence of national antipathies. Both the papers on "Fair Trade" are above the average of the many disquisitions on the subject that we have read; but neither writer fairly meets his antagonist. Mr. Ruskin is another chapter of "Fiction—Fair and Foul," in which he is at his best when praising Scott, and at his very worst when criticising George Eliot. The following passage could only have been written by Mr. Ruskin or—Carlyle:—

"*The Mill on the Floss* is perhaps the most striking instance extant of this study of cutaneous disease. There is not a single person in the book of the smallest importance to anybody in the world but themselves, or whose qualities deserved so much as a line of printer's type in their description. There is no girl alive, fairly clever, half-educated, and



unluckily related, whose life has not at least as much in it as Maggie's, to be described and to be pitied. Tom is a clumsy and cruel lout, with the making of better things in him . . . ; while the rest of the characters are simply the sweepings out of a Pentonville omnibus."

Mr. Swinburne has said something of this kind before, but with more discrimination. The most thoughtful article, and the most stimulating of thought, is that on "Scientific Optimism," by Mr. James Sully. Evolution, surely, cannot be conceived of as other than optimistic, if looked at from the point of view, not of the individual, but of the world at large.

THE most important article in *Macmillan's Magazine* is one by the Rev. Randall T. Davidson, on "The Authorisation of the Bible," in which he brings forward the results of much historical research to maintain—in opposition to the opinion hastily given by Lord Selborne—that the so-called "Authorised Version" made its way by its own merits, and not by external authority, and that for twenty years after its publication its use was far from being general in the Church. Mr. Archibald Geikie continues his account of a geological journey in America by a description of "The Geyers of the Yellowstone;" and Mr. A. G. C. Liddell gives a pleasant, though not a novel, description of a small German Court in "Life and Sport at Altenstein." Mrs. Muller describes the system of elementary education as conducted in the schools of Florence; and Mr. E. M. Edmonds translates specimens of the lyrical poetry of modern Greece. Finally, the magazine contains two notices of Dean Stanley, by a French Protestant and by a Presbyterian divine; they would scarcely be deserving of notice save that the editor has had the courage to print the French article in its original tongue. Let us hope the example may be followed by other periodicals in the future.

THE *Antiquary* is improving. The number for October is by far the best that we remember to have seen. Shakspeare students will thank Mr. Ellacombe for his paper on their hero's knowledge of angling; and Yorkshire folk will be amused by Mr. J. D. Shaw's notes from the archives of the Leeds Corporation. Mr. Sharvel-Bayly continues his notes on the monumental brasses of Essex; and we have an interesting paper by Mr. Henry Poole, the master-mason of the Abbey, on the Poet's Corner at Westminster. The article of the greatest importance, however, is the one communicated by Mr. J. Theodore Bent, on "Oliver Cromwell and Genoa." A close intimacy existed between England and that Italian republic during the reign of Oliver. Mr. Bent traces this in some degree to the Lord Protector's family connexion with members of the Genoese family of Pallavicini who were settled in this country. In the Genoese archives there is preserved an Italian translation of a letter written by Cromwell very soon after the Battle of Worcester. The original, it is to be feared, is lost. Mr. Bent gives an English version, but not the Italian text. We see no reason to doubt its genuineness; and it is a most useful addition to the literature of the time, though we do not think it gives us any new facts of much importance. Mr. Bent prints at length, in an English form, the Genoese ambassador Bernardi's account of the Protector's funeral. It is a more detailed and graphic account of that solemn function than anything which we have met with elsewhere. We wish that he had furnished us with the original Italian, which should certainly be printed. It seems that the Poor Knights of Windsor who attended the funeral were "dressed like priests at the High Mass, being a most ancient custom at the funerals of the Kings of England." The *Antiquarian News* contains accounts of much church restoration. At Minster, near Boscastle,

it seems that deal pews have been substituted for the old oak seats, which had interesting carved work on them. These latter have been treated as rubbish, dispersed through the village, and some of them burnt. Has not the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings anything to say about a proceeding such as this?

THE *Revista Contemporanea* of September 30 publishes a narrative of the *pronunciamiento* of 1854 from the inedited memoirs of one of the actors in it—Gen. Letona. Fernandez Duro tells the history of the bridge of Zamora, and of its long struggle for existence against the floods of the Douro. No fragment of Roman work remains, and all that is left of the mediæval structure is already doomed. R. de Villa-Urrutia analyses the various contemporary accounts of the embassy of the Constable of Castile to England in 1804. The after-dinner entertainment offered by James I. to his guests was bull- and bear-baiting seen from the windows of the dining-hall; while the Spanish ambassador introduced ice, brought from Flanders, as a refreshment for the first time in England.

#### MODERN SPANISH LITERATURE.

THERE are several contemporary Spanish writers who seem to be little known in England, and of whose works readers of the *ACADEMY* may be glad to have a brief indication.

First among living poets of Spain stands Nuñez de Arce. Neither his new poem, *Herman el Lobo*, of which he read one canto some months ago before the Ateneo of Madrid, nor the collected edition of his other works, have yet appeared. Nuñez de Arce is not a poet who dwells apart from actual life in the regions of the ideal. His art is far from being passionless or impersonal. His muse is essentially that of a patriot, and his heart throbs in unison with every political, social, or religious movement of his age. His verses in *Gritos del Combate* (third edition, 1875) reflect to the full the painful feelings of every true Spaniard at the various crises of his country's fate from 1868-73. Ever he points to a higher morality as the sole means of the regeneration of his country. His sonnet, *España*, is a noble protest against the national corruption. His little poem, *Excelsior*, may be favourably compared with that of Longfellow. In point of art, the finest of all these early poems is the longest, *Raimundo Lulli*. With greater earnestness, and with deeper philosophical insight, it recalls Tennyson's *Palace of Art*. Since this volume, only separate poems have appeared, of which the two most interesting to Englishmen are *La Última Lamentación de Lord Byron* (fifteenth edition, 1881), and *La Vision de Fray Martin* (seventh edition, 1880), which treats of the revolt of Luther from a Roman Catholic, but highly poetical, point of view. The dramatical works of Nuñez de Arce have been collected in one volume, but in this form of verse he is hardly so successful as in lyrical and narrative poetry.

Of living novelists we give decidedly the first place to Juan Valera, a critic, poet, and dramatist, as well as novel-writer. In lighter lyrical drama, and in *zurzuelas*, he is very successful; but, as a critic, he falls far short of our expectation. In the Prefaces to his novels he complains of want of popularity. His audience, though fit, is but few. Valera is essentially a man's novelist. He excels in analysis of character. His canvas is never crowded. He works up all his novels to a single incident, which throws sudden and unexpected light, not so much on the action or the plot, as on the character of the chief actor. The *dénouement* reveals to us, for the first time (as so often happens in real life), the whole man or woman,

of whom we find we have had only partial glimpses before, though we thought we knew them well. But we must own that he is sometimes rather tedious in arriving at this point. The reader has great temptation to skip; but, if he does so, he will find that he cannot comprehend the close apart from what has gone before. Though very far from being an immoral, or even an unmoral, writer, Valera sometimes chooses very risky situations; but from the very worst of these—in *Pepita Jimenez*—he draws a fine picture of the remorse of one who, though married to the woman of his heart, and blessed with all that earth can give, yet from time to time mourns over his lost ideal, when he thought to dedicate his life to the service of heaven and of humanity. The most pleasing of his novels is, perhaps, *Doña Luz*, the last sentence of which admirably rounds off the whole. The marriage of uncle and niece, which closes *El Comendador Mendoza*, spoils it for many readers, and is, moreover, we think, faulty in art. After the terrific scene with Doña Blanca, showing the difference between sin to the man of the world and to the deeply religious woman—a scene which slightly parallels one in Mrs. Gaskell's *Ruth*, but is a stronger situation, and far more forcibly delineated—after such a scene, the end, we think, should have been either retirement to a monastery, or a lonely bachelorhood.

Among other post-novelists are Don José Selgas and Pedro de Alarcon. As far as we are acquainted with them, we deem the verses of the former far inferior to his prose; but some of his novels—e.g., *El Angel de la Guarda*—should be favourites with English readers. Alarcon has written many serious novels, and one most mirth-provoking tale, *El Sombrero de tres Picos*, in its way almost a masterpiece; but his best-known work is his *Diario de un Testigo de la Guerra de Africa*, giving an account of the campaign in Morocco in 1861. He is one of many writers of Spain whom the social and political events from 1868-74 have driven to reaction. His Jesuits, now, are as impossible in their superhuman wisdom and goodness as are those of ultra-Liberal writers in the opposite extreme. The worthy human-hearted priests of Juan Valera are far more attractive, as well as truer portraiture. Other novelists, such as Perez Galdos, Fernandez y Gonzalez, &c., we must leave for the present.

One of the most interesting results of the tercentenary anniversary of Calderon has been the eight lectures delivered by Menendez Pelayo to the "Círculo de la Union Católica." As a critic, the lecturer is distinguished by impartiality and robust good sense rather than by brilliancy of expression or by dazzling theory. His verdict on Calderon approaches nearer to that of G. H. Lewes than to the unqualified admiration of Schlegel or of Trench. In delineation of character he confesses that Calderon has failed, and especially in his feminine portraiture. His morality he allows to be the conventional morality of Spain in the seventeenth century, which was often opposed to the highest Christian code. In each kind of drama, except in the *Autos*, he admits that Calderon has been equalled, or surpassed, by single plays of other Spanish authors; but he claims for him, as a whole, a higher place than can be assigned to any other, by reason of his wealth of poetry, his high philosophy, his lifting every subject to the region of the ideal, and the serene Christian faith which animates all he writes. He is the third, after Shakspeare and Sophocles, among the world's dramatists.

After all, it is not, perhaps, in lighter literature that Spain is making her greatest advances, but in historical research. Most important aids to the study of Spanish history have lately appeared. The publication by the Government of the *Cartas de Indias*; of the *Indice del*

*Monasterio de Sahagun*, by the "Archivo Historico Nacional;" of the notices of some of the *Beccerros y Cartularios* in the same institution, by Don José Fordadada; of the *Catalogue* of the 625 Spanish MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris, of which the first part has just appeared, by Morel Fatio; the *Guia de la Villa y Archivo de Simancas*, by Diez Sanchez; the *Manual de Paleografía diplomática Española*, and the *Paleografía Visigoda* of Señor Munoz y Rivero; not to mention the labours of the veteran Gayangos, and the catalogues or indications of separate collections which have appeared in provincial journals—all these show how earnestly such studies are pursued in Spain.

In original works, the *Ancient Geography of Spain*, by Fernandez Guerra, which has met the enthusiastic approval of Hübner, is being printed by the Government; and Fernandez y Gonzalez continues the labours of Amador de los Rios on the Semitic populations of Spain.

In the collection of folk-lore, progress is being made. Señors Delmas and Trueba are working in the Basque Provinces, and so also is V. de Arana (whose *Leyendas Bascongadas* are announced for November); in Andalusia several labourers are in the field; in Barcelona the publishers Domenech and Co., have begun a series of works, entitled *Artes u Letras*, on popular poetry and traditions. We may also call attention to the nicely printed "Coleccion de Autores Castellanos," by Perez Dubrull, Madrid, in which the *Romancero espiritual* of Valdivielso and the *Obras dramaticas* of Ayala have already appeared.

We subjoin the two short poems of Nuñez de Arce referred to above:—

## A ESPAÑA.

Roto el respecto, la obediencia rota,  
de Dios y de la ley perdido el freno,  
vas marchando entre lágrimas y ceno  
y aire de tempestad tu rostro azota.

Ni causa oculta, ni razon ignota  
busques al mal que te devoro el seno;  
tu iniquidad, como sutil veneno,  
las fuerzas de tus músculos agota.

No esperes en revuelta sacudida  
alcanzar el remedio por tu mano,  
¡oh sociedad rebelde y corrompida!

Perseguida la libertad en vano,  
que cuando un pueblo la virtud olvida  
lleva en sus propios vicios su tirano.

1866.

## EXCELSIOR.

¿Porqué los corazones miserables  
porqué las almas viles  
en los rudes combates de la vida  
ni luchan ni resisten?

El espíritu humano es más constante  
cuanto más se levanta:

Dios puso el fango en la llanura, y puso  
la roca en la montaña.

La blanca nieve que en los hondos valles  
derritese ligera,  
en las altivas cumbres permanece  
inmutable y eterna.

1872.

WENTWORTH WEBSTER.

## SELECTED BOOKS.

## GENERAL LITERATURE.

- ANNUAIRE de l'Economie politique et de la Statistique, par MM. Guillaumin, Garnier, &c., 38<sup>e</sup> Année. Paris: Guillaumin. 9 fr.
- BLACK, W. The Beautiful Wretch, &c. Macmillan. 31s. 6d.
- BOCK, C. The Head Hunters of Borneo: up the Mahakkam and down the Barita. Sampson Low & Co. 36s.
- CONSTANT, Benjamin, Lettres de, à Madame Récamier, 1807-30. Paris: C. Lévy. 7 fr. 50 c.
- DU CHAILLU. The Land of the Midnight Sun. Murray.
- GABORIAU, E. Les Amours d'une Empoisonneuse. Paris: Dentu. 3 fr. 50 c.
- HARDY, Lady Duffus. Through Cities and Prairie Lands: Sketches of an American Tour. Chauman & Hall. 14s.
- MEIGNAN, V. Le comte Kappany: Récit hongrois. Paris: Plon. 3 fr. 50 c.

- MÜLLER-FRAUBERTH, C. Die deutschen Lügendichtungen bis auf Münchhausen dargestellt. Halle: Niemeyer. 3 M.
- PRESNUN, E. Pompeii. Ergänzungsband. 1. Lfg. Leipzig: Weigel. 8 M.
- ROHLF, G. Kufra. Reise von Tripolis nach der Oase Kufra. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 16 M.
- ROSSETTI, D. G. Ballads and Sonnets. Ellis & White. 12s.
- SCHLIMMANN, H. Reise in der Troas im Mai 1881. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 2 M.
- SHAKESPEARE'S Hamlet-Quellen: Saxo grammaticus, Belleforest u. The Hystorie of Hamblet. Zuammengestellt u. m. Vorwort, Einleitg. u. Nachträgen v. R. Gericks brg. v. M. Moltke. Leipzig: Barth. 3 M.
- THUMMEL, J. Vorträge über Shakespeare-Charaktere. Halle: Niemeyer. 4 M.

## THEOLOGY.

- JÉRÉMIE, Commentaire sur, par Rabbi Josef ben Siméon Kara, Auteur français du XI<sup>e</sup> S<sup>è</sup>cle, p. p. Léon Schlosberg. Paris: Durlacher.
- ZAHN, Th. Forschungen zur Geschichte d. neutestamentlichen Kanons u. der altkirchlichen Literatur. 1. Thl. Tadian's Diatessaron. Erlangen: Deichert. 7 M.

## HISTORY.

- BOSC, E., et L. BONNEMERE. Histoire nationale des Gaulois sous Vercingétorix. Paris: Firmin-Didot. 8 fr.
- PHILLIMORE, Lucy. Sir Christopher Wren: his Family and his Times. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.
- PRÉCIS militaire de la Campagne de 1813 en Allemagne. Leipzig: Brockhaus. 2 M. 50 Pf.
- RÉMUSAT, Madame de, A Selection from the Letters of, to her Husband and Son, 1804-13. Trans. Mrs. Cashel Hoey and J. Lillie. Sampson Low & Co. 16s.
- RENAN, E. Marc-Aurèle et la Fin du Monde antique. Paris: O. Lévy. 7 fr. 50 c.
- SCHMIDT, K. Jus primæ noctis. Eine geschichtl. Untersuchung. Freiburg-i.-B.: Horder. 8 M.
- WILSON, Erasmus. The Egypt of the Past. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. 12s.
- WITT, M<sup>me</sup>. de. Scènes historiques. 2<sup>e</sup> Série. Paris: Hachette. 5 fr.

## PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- ANNALES de l'Observatoire astronomique, magnétique et météorologique de Toulouse. T. 1. 1873-78. Paris: Gauthier-Villars.
- DARWIN, C. The Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms. Murray.
- L'ANNÉE MÉDICALE. 3<sup>e</sup> Année. 1880. Paris: Plon. 4 fr.
- LAPARENT, A. de. Traité de Géologie. 2<sup>e</sup> Fasc. Paris: Savvy.
- ROSCOE, H. R. A Treatise on Chemistry. Vol. III. Part I. Organic Chemistry. Macmillan. 21s.
- SIEMENS, W. Gesammelte Abhandlungen u. Vorträge. Berlin: Springer. 14 M.
- STIRLING, J. Hutchison. Text-Book to Kant. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. 14s.

## PHILOLOGY, ETC.

- ALMKVIST, H. Die Bishari-Sprache Tu-Bedawie in Nordost-Afrika. 1. Bd. Upsala: Akademische Buchhandlung. 25s.
- BALLIN, A. S. and F. L. A. Hebrew Grammar. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co. 7s. 6d.
- FORMA morale, das mittellenglische. Im krit. Text, nach den 6 vorhandenen Handschriften zum 1. Male hrsg. v. H. Löwin. Halle: Niemeyer. 2 M.
- REISIG, Ch. K. Vorlesungen über lateinische Sprachwissenschaft, m. den Anmerkungen v. F. Haase. Unter Benutzung der hinterlassenen Manuscripte neu bearb. v. H. Hagen. 1. Bd. Berlin: Calvary. 6 M.
- THIBAUT, H. Romanz de la Poire. Ertisch-allegor. Gedicht aus dem XIII. Jahrh., hrsg. v. F. Stehlich. Halle: Niemeyer. 4 M.
- ULFILA. Aivaggeli thiir Maththaiu. K. V-VII. Hrsg. v. A. Schöler. Waldschut: Zimmermann. 2 M.
- WICKERT, E. Littauische Geschichten. Leipzig: Reissner. 5 M.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

MACLISE'S PICTURE, "THE SERENADE," AND MR. BROWNING'S POEM, "IN A GONDOLA."

3 St. George's Square, N.W.: Oct. 12, 1881.

Can any of your readers tell me where MacLise's picture of *The Serenade from a Gondola in Venice* is; and whether it was exhibited in London about the year 1840 or 1841?

Mr. Shepherd sends me the following extract from a letter of Charles Dickens to MacLise, written from Albano in 1844:—

"In a certain picture called *The Serenade*, for which Browning wrote that verse in Lincoln's Inn Fields, you, O Mac, painted a sky" (*Life*, book iv., § 4, ed. 1876, ii. 365).

Forster puts "that verse" in a note, "I send my heart up to thee, all my heart," &c.; and it is, as Mr. Carson says, the first stanza of Mr. Browning's *In a Gondola*, printed, in 1842, in *Bells and Pomegranates*, No. iii. Now, MacLise painted the whole picture, not only the sky. Mr. Browning wrote his stanza on it impromptu, on Forster's description of the

picture, before he himself had seen it. When he saw it, he thought the picture worth more than a stanza, and, therefore, wrote his *In a Gondola* from it.

Neither any entry of the picture nor the verses are in the Royal Academy catalogues from 1835 to 1847, says Mr. Shepherd; nor is any mention made of *The Serenade* in the *Memoir of Daniel Maclise, R.A.* (1871), by Mr. O'Driscoll, whose only authority for MacLise's paintings seems to have been the Academy catalogues. But some art-reader of the ACADEMY may, perhaps, have a note as to the history and whereabouts of this *Serenade* by MacLise.

F. J. FURNIVALL.

## AN OLD SYRIAC MS. LOST OR HIDDEN IN ENGLAND OR IRELAND.

Münchingen: Sept. 23, 1881.

In the year 1686 there was printed at Dublin *An History of the Twofold Invention of the Cross whereon Our Saviour was crucified. Translated out of An antient Aramaean Biologist. Together with An Account of the Conversion of the Ethiopians out of Abulpharagius's Ecclesiastical History.* By Dudley Loftus J. utriusq. Dr.

In the Preface to the Reader the editor states:—

"This History of the Cross is here translated out of an antient Oriental MS., transmitted about five years since from Aleppo, by Dr. Robert Huntingdon, now Provost of the College of Dublin, unto the Bishop of Fernes and Leighlin, then Provost of the same. It is contained in a Biologie of Eastern Saints, written in a fair Estrangular Character, wherein the Aramaeans usually write matters of most precious concern."

Dr. Huntingdon's Syriac MSS. went, after his death, to the Bodleian Library. We find among the "Codd. Hunt." preserved there the second MS. which Loftus made use of for the book here mentioned—viz., that of the Ecclesiastical History of Barhebraeus—and a third MS. which he used in 1695, the Commentary of Dionysius Bar Salibi on the Gospels; but not the first. Nor is it, as I was told a few years since, to be found at Dublin. The MS. must have been, in all respects, similar to Add. 12174, fol. 291 ff., of the British Museum. But this was written in the year 1196, while Huntingdon's MS., to conclude from the description of the character as given by Loftus in the Preface just quoted, seems to have been of a somewhat older date.

As I am preparing for the press an edition of all Syriac narratives concerning the Invention of the Holy Cross, I should be glad to get any news about the fate of this MS.

E. NESTLE.

## THE BUDDHA ON WOMEN.

Oxford: Oct. 4, 1881.

Dr. Morris in his interesting review of Mr. Rhys Davids' *Buddhist Suttas* quotes two passages from the sacred writings in which a rather unfavourable opinion is expressed about women. The Buddha would therefore seem to have resembled in that respect many of the sages of olden and, alas! modern times. However, in justice to the founder of a first sect of female mendicants, I may state that, in one of the Buddhist suttas at least, women are placed on the same moral level as men. In the still unpublished *Saṃyutta Nikāya*, one sutta, the *Mātugāma saṃyutta*, is devoted to the subject of women. While it is admitted that from natural causes women are inferior to men, it is also stated that nothing can prevent them from reaching the same high standard of moral perfection to which the Buddha taught all his disciples to aspire. As might be expected, Gotama bestows the



highest praise on that woman who embraces a religious life. She has to follow the same laws as those prescribed to the mendicants. Virtues and vices will be the cause of her character re-appearing in one of the Buddhist worlds, just as with other living beings. The identical answer is given to the questions "What makes women perfectly unpleasant to men?" and "What makes men perfectly unpleasant to women?" For the use of those who maintain that Buddhism is a pessimistic philosophy, I may mention the fact that one of the good attributes which the Buddha ascribes to woman is to become a mother.

OSCAR FRANKFURTER.

#### APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, Oct. 17, 7.30 p.m. Education Society: "Technical Schools in France," by Mr. Philip Magnus.  
8 p.m. Royal Academy: "The Skeleton," II., by Prof. John Marshall.  
FRIDAY, Oct. 21, Royal Academy: "The Skeleton," III., by Prof. John Marshall.

#### SCIENCE.

*An English-Arabic Lexicon.* By the Rev. George Percy Badger, D.C.L. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

THE completion of this long-promised work, the materials of which have been collected during a period of nearly forty years, while the actual compilation and final revision have occupied more than eight years of unflagging industry—Dr. Badger tells us that he has regularly given twelve hours a-day to his task—is matter of equal congratulation to the author and to the public. The inadequacy of all previous works of the kind is notorious. There was no lexicon in existence which gave substantial help to an Englishman desirous to acquire the power of writing correct and intelligible Arabic. Yet there is no tongue for which such help is more necessary. Where the language of standard literature is also the language of affairs and of modern correspondence, the student may learn to speak and write by much careful reading. But the classical Arabic, the language of the Desert, belongs to a stage of society long past; and even the most modern and colloquial books which a European is likely to read—the *Arabian Nights*, for example—are essentially mediæval productions, in which we look in vain for many of the words and ideas of modern life. On the other hand, there is so much difference between spoken Arabic and the language as it is written even by business men, that mere oral practice does not help a man to write tolerably; and hence it is not surprising that very few Europeans, even if they can speak and read Arabic fairly enough, attain any facility in written composition in that tongue.

What Dr. Badger's work does towards the removal of this state of things may be best seen by comparing it with the *Dictionnaire français-arabe* of Boethor, which, as enlarged by Caussin de Perceval, has hitherto been the most valuable lexicon accessible to European students; while the circumstance that it has been reprinted in Egypt indicates that it has also found favour with Eastern students of the European languages. We observe, then, in the first place that, while Boethor gives only occasional indications of the vowels, Dr. Badger's Arabic is vocalised

throughout. This must have added very much to the labour of the author and to the cost of printing, but the gain to the student is immense. He will never, indeed, be expected to write the vowel-points, but it is only by constant attention to them that he can gain a firm hold of the language. In the next place, Dr. Badger's work enormously transcends Boethor's in fullness of phrase and idiom. In the latter, the adjective *nul* occupies a single line. In the former, ten phrases are given illustrating the various methods in which the English *none* may have to be rendered in Arabic. Nor is the English work less superior in the fullness and care with which it represents the richness of the Arabic vocabulary in the names of all concrete objects, as may be seen, for example, in the articles devoted to members of the body in men and animals. Once more, Dr. Badger has spent great pains on everything connected with modern inventions and modern science, using to this end recent publications of the Arabic press in Syria and Egypt, and especially the Arabic newspapers. Thus, for example, *electricity* figures in Boethor only as an attraction between objects that have been rubbed, and the *telegraph* is still the old semaphore. In the new lexicon we find the electric telegraph, electro-plate, electro-magnetism, electrometer, and so forth. These terms of modern science, to be sure, give great trouble to Arabic writers, and, in general, the jargon of recent Arabic text-books of chemistry or the like can hardly be intelligible to readers who do not know something of the European tongues; but so large a proportion of Europeans in the East have a direct concern with the inventions of modern science that this apparently barbarous portion of Dr. Badger's store of words will not prove the least useful. To the philosophical student of language there is a peculiar interest in these most recent developments of the Arabic tongue. Their very crudeness is symptomatic of the gap between Eastern and Western culture—of the way in which Western inventions are adopted in the East, without being assimilated or properly understood. But the language which in the Middle Ages so quickly appropriated and learned to convey, with all nicety, the science and philosophy of the Greeks, will doubtless adapt itself to modern science as soon as that science is properly taught and thoroughly mastered in the East. Already one can trace the beginnings of idiomatic expression in such things as telegraphy. A telegram is "a wire message," and, though Dr. Badger does not give the phrase, "to strike the wire" is a very good and established idiom for sending a telegraphic message.

A considerable number of articles in the lexicon before us are written purely for the use of Eastern students, conveying short definitions of Western institutions and ideas which have no Eastern equivalent. These definitions are often only approximately correct. It is hardly fair to explain a justice of the peace as a police magistrate, or to identify the lord chief justice with the *kādi 'l kudāti*; but within the limits of a dictionary greater accuracy was perhaps unattainable.

It is impossible, without a liberal use of Arabic type, and a multiplication of details unsuited for these columns, to give more than

the most general indication of the distinctive and admirable features of Dr. Badger's work. Its chief commendation is that it is a real lexicon, on a complete plan, and not a mere vocabulary and phrase-book. How much knowledge, labour, and ingenuity are implied in this fact can only be appreciated by those who have practical experience of the enormous gulf between Eastern and Western modes of thought and expression which it is the business of a lexicon to bridge over.

In this aspect of his task, the author had constantly to rely on his own judgment and his own collections from the most recent literature; for the best dictionaries of Arabic—even the great work of Lane—are wholly compiled from an Eastern standpoint, and give only definitions copied from the original Arabic lexicographers. For the most part, too, these works confine themselves to the old classic tongue, the chief exception being the *Mohit el mohit* of Bustāny, which Dr. Badger was not in a position to use for the earliest part of his work. The difficulty of the work was, of course, vastly enhanced by all this; but, in return, the result is fresh and instructive in a remarkable degree.

In conclusion, it is right to observe that Dr. Badger's lexicon does not supersede the use of vocabularies of local and vernacular speech. It teaches the student to write as a cultivated Arab would write; but it omits many words of general currency which offend the purism of the Arabic East or of the author. Sometimes this purism is carried to an extent which appears questionable. Surely such terms as *Kutubkhāneh* (library) have a currency even in official documents which entitles them to be given. The correctness and beauty of the printing are beyond all praise; and the elegance of the Arabic character—a point to which we in the West are often too indifferent—will be specially appreciated by Eastern readers.

W. ROBERTSON SMITH.

*A Manual of Injurious Insects; with Methods of Prevention and Remedy for their Attacks to Food Crops, Forest Trees, and Fruit.* With a short Introduction to Entomology. By Eleanor A. Ormerod. (Sonnenschein & Allen.)

THERE appears to be a reviving interest in the subject of injurious insects, for within a short period there have been published the weighty monograph by Köppen on the *Schädlichen Insecten Russlands* (issued by the St. Petersburg Academy), a popular manual intended for the use of German agriculturists, and the book by Miss Ormerod now lying before us. The importance of such information for farmers cannot easily be over-estimated, whether regarded from the standpoint of agriculture or from that of scientific research.

Miss Ormerod's aim has been of the most practical description. After a concise Introduction to Entomology, she describes the insects that injure the food crops, the forest trees, and the fruit trees. The farmers' foes are thus described in connexion with the plants which they injure or destroy. There are wood-cuts of the larvae and perfect insects to elucidate the brief account

of their form and habits given in the text. Then follow practical directions for the prevention and remedy of these pests. In this part Miss Ormerod has had the advantage of communications from numerous correspondents, whose aid she has acknowledged with commendable gratitude and candour.

There is no limitation expressed in the title; but it may be safely assumed that Miss Ormerod intends her work merely as a monograph of British injurious insects, although the Colorado beetle and other exceptional insects are admitted. Each country has its own special inflictions. Thus in Jamaica the larvae of the *Protoparce jamaicensis* is very injurious to the tobacco plant; those of the *Euthisanotia timais* will sometimes destroy all the lilies in a garden in a few days. Large trees of the *Catalpa longisquula* have their leaves stripped by the *Hybloea puera*. The cucumber vines suffer from *Phakellura hyalinata*, and the edible calalu is attacked by the *Hymenia perspectalis*. It would be equally unreasonable and unavailing to seek for any mention of these here. On the more familiar ground of Britain, Miss Ormerod's information is extensive and accurate. Her *Manual* can be safely recommended to all who are interested in the subject. Such a book placed in the hands of a farmer's son would not only be of practical service, but, if it gave him an interest in entomology, would open to him a new world, and one of great interest. It is a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject, and it is to be hoped that it may come to a second edition, in which case some omissions should be supplied. Among these may be named the *Heliophobus popularis* and the *Charaeeas graminis*. The latter has this year been committing some ravages in the district around Clitheroe, where it made sad havoc with the tender parts of the grass. The larvae were in prodigious numbers, and did much damage. It is remarkable that this insect should have escaped Miss Ormerod's notice, as it is described by Koellar, and an instance of its previous devastation at Skiddaw has been recorded by Curtis. Locally, this plague of caterpillars is attributed to the unusual heat of a part of the summer and to the diminution of birds, and especially of sea-gulls, in the district.

When insects assume the proportions of a plague, it is often because the balance established by Nature has been disturbed. If some insects are injurious to plants, by a grim reversal some plants are equally inimical to insects. Thus in one of the hot-houses at the Jardin des Plantes of Montpellier a curious observation has recently been made of an insect-killing cryptogam, which is described as being of the same genus as the *Botrytis*, which infests the silk-worm. It was growing upon a *Cineraria*, and had destroyed all the pucerons that were infesting the plant. The dead aphides, of the genus *Siphonophora*, could be seen on the leaf, covered with the mycelium. M. J. Liechtenstein, who communicated this fact to the French Academy of Science in May last, was not able to obtain the same effect outside. The *Botrytis bassiana* is the cause of the disease, known as muscardine, by which silk-worms are sometimes destroyed. The sporules, float-

ing in the air, find their way into the air-tubes of the silk-worm immediately before it enters the chrysalis form. The plant, after blocking the air-tubes, extends throughout the adipose tissue under the skin. As this tissue is a reserve fund of nourishment for the torpid chrysalis, the result of its destruction by the plant is the death of the worm. After the death of the chrysalis, the plant continues to grow, and emerges from the interior between the different segments. In this it may be compared with the action of that common fungus, the *Empusa musci*, which may often be seen surrounding, as a whitish film, the dead body of the common house-fly. It is noticeable that, although the *Botrytis bassiana* attacks only the larvae of the silk-worm, it can be given by inoculation to the chrysalis and to the moth. M. Liechtenstein was unable to inoculate other pucerons with the *Botrytis* observed at Montpellier by M. Plongeon.

But, apart from the enmity of insect-ivorous and insecticide plants, the insects have most to fear from the birds. It is frequently the injudicious destruction of birds, and especially of small song-birds, that leaves the insects to exercise unchecked their almost fabulous powers of increase and multiplication. The farmers have yet to learn the lesson of the merry birds of Killingworth of whom Longfellow has sung. Because they "levied blackmail on the garden beds" they were exterminated. And then—

"The summer came, and all the birds were dead;  
The days were like hot coals; the very ground  
Was burned to ashes; in the orchards fed  
Myriads of caterpillars, and around  
The cultivated fields and garden beds  
Hosts of devouring insects crawled, and found  
No foe to check their march, till they had made  
The land a desert, without leaf or shade."

This poem, on which Miss Ormerod's book furnishes some instructive comments, would form an admirable subject for reading and illustration in our rural schools.

WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

#### NOTES OF TRAVEL.

CAPT. BURMEISTER, of the steamer *Louise*, whose return to Hammerfest from the Yenisei we recorded on October 1, reports that, after passing through Kara Strait, at the south end of Novaya Zemlya, on the outward voyage, he did not see any ice in the Kara Sea, but on his return he passed several icebergs which had fastened, and were likely to remain for the winter; he also experienced rather bad weather with snowstorms. During his whole voyage Capt. Burmeister saw nothing whatever of the *Oscar Dickson*. The *Louise* brought back from the Yenisei a quantity of rye, some wheat, and other Siberian produce.

A MEETING has lately been held at Buenos Ayres in connexion with the proposed Italian Antarctic expedition. It was arranged to ask the Argentine Government for the assistance of two war vessels, required chiefly for transport purposes; but it has not yet been decided whether the station we mentioned before should be formed in San Sebastian Bay, Eastern Tierra del Fuego, or some other locality.

DURING their recent journey from the Irady to the Yangtze-kiang, Messrs. Soltan and Stevenson passed through some of the aboriginal tribes of South-western China, about

whom our information is unfortunately most defective. Soon after leaving Pupeng, in Yunnan, they entered a belt of country inhabited by Lolo, a hardy mountain race still only partly acknowledging Chinese rule. The specimens seen were scarcely to be distinguished from the Chinese, except by their not being on the average so tall. The women wore over the ordinary tunic and trousers a kind of long jacket reaching to the knees, the side seams of which are left open; when they are engaged in manual labour the front part of this jacket is rolled up like an apron. The way in which the Lolo carry long deep baskets on their backs by means of straps round their foreheads and yokes on their necks is not unlike the practice of the Kakhyens on the Burmo-Chinese frontier. Like them, too, they build their villages away from the roads in almost inaccessible dells in the pine-covered mountains. The Lolo near Pupeng, though at one time very troublesome, have now settled down more quietly, and are successful breeders of horses, mules, sheep, and cattle; they also supply the neighbouring towns with firewood, charcoal, timber, and many kinds of medicinal herbs. To protect travellers on the lonely roads through the Lolo country, the Chinese have established guard-houses within signalling distance of each other, and escorts are provided for caravans transporting valuable merchandise. Between Chaotung-fu and the Szechuen frontier, again, a man and woman of extraordinary appearance were met, the latter dressed in a long jacket-gown of coarse flaxen cloth, with her hair done up like a cone on the top of her head. The man was an even wilder-looking specimen of the Hwa (or variegated) Miao-tze from the hills; he wore a coat of many colours, with white trousers, and his long black hair hung loosely about his head and over his shoulders.

THE Paris Geographical Society have received intelligence of the death in South-west Africa of M. Henri Dufour, a young French explorer. M. Dufour left Omaruru at the end of last year for the purpose of exploring the basin of the River Cunene at the south of the Portuguese West African possessions. Nothing having been heard of him for some time, a search was made for him, but without success, though his papers and other property were found. It is thought that he has been murdered by an Ovampo tribe now at war with the Portuguese.

WE are glad to announce the arrival in England from Zanzibar of Sir John Kirk, who has done more than any other man to promote the cause of exploration in Eastern Africa. For this, as well as his services in connexion with the suppression of the slave-trade, he lately had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him. He was the intimate friend of Dr. Livingstone, and was associated with him in some of his journeys in the Zambeze region, &c.

FROM the October *Statement* of the Palestine Exploration Society, we learn that it has been found necessary to commence the survey of Eastern Palestine at the south instead of at the north, as was originally intended. On the arrival of the theodolites, therefore, Lieut. Conder lost no time in making the necessary arrangements, and took his party across the Jordan, his first camp being at Ain Hesban, the old Heshbon. He reports that his base line has been twice measured with as great accuracy as was obtained in the preceding survey, and that he has already accomplished some hundred miles of survey. Among the archaeological results are an immense quantity of cromlechs, no fewer than fifty having been sketched in three days. Some of them had small chambers near them from three to five feet long, and three feet high, excavated in detached cubes of rock ten to fifteen feet on each side. Lieut. Conder



reports a small harvest of identifications. He thinks he has found the field of Zophim, the ascent of Lubith, Jazer, Sibmah, and Minnith.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

*The Geological Society of Edinburgh.*—This society has just issued the first part of its fourth volume of *Transactions*, containing most of the papers read during the last session. The valedictory address of the president, Mr. Milne Holmes, is to some extent controversial, being largely occupied with a discussion of the question whether the ice markings on the rocks of the northern part of Scotland were made by the passage of a thick ice-sheet from Scandinavia, as held by some of the officers of the Geological Survey, or not rather by the agency of floating ice, as the president himself stoutly maintains. It is evident, from other papers in this publication, that glacial phenomena occupy the serious attention of a large number of the members of our Northern geological society. Thus, Mr. H. M. Cadell describes in detail the surface geology of part of the estuary of the Forth, and deals largely with the great Ice age; while Mr. J. Fraser contributes a paper in which he discusses the glacial phenomena of Strathnairn.

The subscriptions received for the Rolleston Memorial Fund up to the present date amount to £530. It is hoped that this sum may shortly be considerably augmented, especially by subscriptions expected to be received from Oxford at the beginning of the present term. All promoters of the movement are requested to make its existence known to others likely to interest themselves in the matter. The treasurer is E. Chapman, Esq., of Frewen Hall, Oxford. A general meeting will shortly be held to determine finally the form which the memorial shall take.

It is now arranged that the "Rudolf Virchow Stiftung," to which we have before referred, for commemorating the sixtieth birthday of Prof. Virchow, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of his academical activity, shall take the form of a permanent endowment, the annual interest of which is to be devoted to the promotion of scientific research, especially in the department of anthropology. The suggestion is made that Prof. Virchow should himself have the direction of the fund.

We have received from Mr. Thomas Fletcher, of Warrington, a somewhat novel object, on which we are inferentially asked to express an opinion. This is one of his "patent solid flame boiling burners." We believe that Mr. Fletcher, as a well-known inventor of gas apparatus, stands in no need of commendation from us. We can only say that, on the night of the arrival of his present, we used it to boil our kettle for tea; and that the kettle took exactly fourteen minutes to boil. How long it would take to boil on the kitchen fire we don't know. We are informed by a domestic authority, to which we defer, that the contrivance will be extremely useful under certain circumstances.

#### PHILOLOGY NOTES.

PROF. S. BEAL will lecture on Tuesday and Friday next, at three o'clock p.m., at University College—subjects: (1) "The *Mahākāvya*, or Poetical Life of Buddha, by Aśvaghoṣa;" and (2) "The Story of the Mātangi Woman: its Points of Resemblance with the History of the Samaritan Woman."

In the department of Oriental philology, Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co., publishers to the India Office, announce the following works as in preparation:—An *English-Persian Dictionary*, by Mr. A. N. Wollaston, translator of the *Anwari*

*Soheili*; an *English-Arabic Dictionary* and an *Arabic-English Dictionary*, by Dr. Steingass; *Alif-Laila, ba-zubān-Urdū* (the *Arabian Nights* in Hindustani), printed in Roman characters, edited by Mr. F. Pincott, M.R.A.S.; a *Malay, Chinese, French, and English Vocabulary*, with words alphabetically arranged under each of the four languages, by Dr. Bickers; an *English-Hindi Dictionary*, by Mr. F. Pincott; and a *Laskari Dictionary* of terms used at sea in the seafaring dialect of India, for the use of captains, naval officers, and others trading to India, by the Rev. George Small, interpreter to the Lascars' Home, Blackwall.

THE second volume of the late M. Paul de Saint-Victor's *Les deux Masques*, treating of Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, and the *Kalidasa*, will be published immediately by M. Calmann Lévy.

At the meeting of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres on September 21, Prof. Max Müller, besides presenting a copy of the first number of the *Analecta Oxoniensia*, which contains a Japanese copy of the Sanskrit MS. of the *Vajracchedika*, communicated the discovery of another Sanskrit MS. in Japan, which is probably the oldest in existence. It is written on palm leaves, and is now preserved in the Imperial Library of Japan. But it came originally from the Buddhist monastery of Horuiji; and, according to the annals of that monastery, it was deposited there in the twenty-third year of Umayydo, corresponding to 609 A.D. As we recently stated, no MS. from India can be proved to go back beyond the eleventh century. At the same meeting of the Académie, a paper was read from M. Dureau-Lafourcade giving a translation of the Siloam inscription, which he was disposed to assign to the time of Ahaz.

MR. HENRY S. OLCOTT, President of the Theosophical Society, has published at the society's press in Colombo, Ceylon (London: Trübner), *A Buddhist Catechism*, which is stated on the title-page to have been "approved and recommended for use in Buddhist schools by Hikkaduwa Sumangala," the distinguished high-priest of Adam's Peak, and principal of the Widyodaya Parivena, the training college for Buddhist recluses in Ceylon. None would have ventured to predict, a few years ago, that the authoritative statement of Buddhist doctrine to be used as a text-book in Buddhist schools would be written in English and by an American; and that it would be so largely a compilation, as this is acknowledged in the Preface to be, from the works of Mr. Rhys Davids, Bishop Bigandet, and other European scholars. This little work, which can be purchased for a few pence, will give to those interested in such questions a reliable statement of what the Ceylon Buddhists of to-day hold to be the essential points of their religion. It is instructive to notice how completely and frankly the latest teachings of science are accepted and endorsed in this catechism for Buddhist children; and how they are taught to repeat, on the authority of the archbishop of their faith, that "Buddhism, like every other religion that has existed many centuries, contains untruth mingled with truth. Even gold is found mixed with dross."

The *Journal of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. VII. (Trübner), contains a paper by Mr. Mervin on Indian astronomy as compared with European science. He very properly points out that the cosmogony of the sacred poets, full of the legends and exaggerations of mythology, should not be regarded as the serious views of the Hindus on scientific subjects. Their standard astronomical works are quite on a par in intelligence and accuracy with European works of similar date.

It is only in more modern times that European astronomy has gone rapidly ahead. The author quotes from Bhāskara, who wrote in the eleventh century, an assertion that "the property of attraction is inherent in the earth. By this property the earth attracts any unsupported heavy thing towards itself. The thing appears to be falling; but it is in a state of being drawn towards the earth." This is interesting enough; but Mr. Mervin is going too far when he therefore concludes that "the laws of gravitation were known to the Hindus long before the time of Sir Isaac Newton." Mr. Alexander Dixon, B.Sc., gives a description of the quartz reefs of Ceylon in an article entitled "Gold." There is a valuable account of the modern religious festivals still held by the Buddhist villagers in the Kandyan districts by Mr. Le Mesurier, of the Ceylon Civil Service; and the number of the *Journal* closes with the prospectus of the newly started Pāli Text Society.

THE *Indian Antiquary* for August contains a translation into English of the very important paper "On the Dates of Ancient Indian Inscriptions and Coins" contributed in the early part of this year by Prof. Oldenberg, of Berlin, to Prof. von Sallet's *Zeitschrift für Numismatik*. Indian chronology in the first centuries of the Christian era has hitherto been almost a hopeless puzzle. The coins and inscriptions of that period are dated in years, but nearly every Indianist has had a different opinion as to the initial years of the various eras in which they are dated. The result is that a coin or an inscription dated, let us say, in the year 120 is assigned by various scholars to periods differing sometimes even by centuries. Dr. Oldenberg's theory differs also from any of those hitherto propounded; but it is so fully worked out, so complete and consistent in itself, and so intrinsically probable, that it will be certain to receive many adherents unless the propounders of previous systems can succeed in establishing its fallacy. Briefly, he identifies the well-known Saka era with the era of the great Buddhist monarch Kanishka, whose coronation he fixes in A.D. 78. He makes the Kshatrapa era run nearly contemporaneously with the Saka era, fixing its commencement at A.D. 100. He places the initial year of the Gupta chronology in 319, and the beginning of the Valabhi dynasty in 480. The reasoning with which these conclusions are supported seems to remove most of the difficulties which have hitherto prevented a unanimity of opinion; and it will be very interesting to hear what Mr. Thomas, Mr. Fergusson, and Gen. Cunningham may have to say to this bold adventure of the young German Professor, who is rapidly pushing his way to the front rank of Orientalists. In the succeeding number of the journal there are a few more pages of Mr. Beal's list of "Chinese Pilgrims to India." It is much to be regretted that papers of this kind are so often printed in the *Indian Antiquary* in small instalments scattered through various numbers. This mode of publication is very suitable to such studies as Mr. Fleet's great series of "Sanskrit and Old-Canarese Inscriptions," each of which is complete in itself; but the temptation is to resort to it much too frequently. Thus we have in this number three and a-half pages more of Dr. Hoernle's valuable paper on the Pāli inscriptions at Bharhut, to be continued in the next number, which is to contain the plate. One result of this breaking up of papers, which is scarcely ever resorted to in the learned periodicals of Germany, is necessarily the republication of the papers as a whole, to the great loss of the journal as a work of reference.

## FINE ART.

*The "Ars Moriendi."* A Reproduction of the Copy in the British Museum. Edited by W. H. Rylands, F.S.A. With an Introduction by George Bullen, F.S.A. (Printed for the Holbein Society.)

THE spurious interest at one time excited by the Block-Books, as a factor in the international squabble over the invention of printing, has for many years been followed by the calmness of complete neglect. The Holbein Society has done well to bring the matter once more prominently before the notice of those interested in the early productions of the engraver's craft. The *Ars Moriendi* is probably, on the whole, the most beautiful of the set of volumes to which it belongs. The work of some unknown artist of unknown date and doubtful locality, it continues to present to students a problem which so far has defied all attempts at solution. Numerous editions are known scattered up and down the libraries of Europe, many of them surviving only in single copies, and some in stray leaves. Among such, the Weygel copy, from which this reproduction has been made, is not only the most perfectly preserved, but it is also the most beautifully executed. No reference is made in the Introduction to the fact that imperfect copies of the same edition are to be found in the University Library at Dublin and the Print Room at Berlin; while the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris claims, at any rate, to possess no less than two perfect copies, in one of which the place of the Latin text is taken by a French translation. The Dublin copy is, in one respect, the most important of the three, in so far as it tends to throw light on the origin of the book, for it is patched with waste sheets of the *Canticum Canticorum*, thus showing that in the workshop where the one was produced there actually were waste sheets of the other. It seems, therefore, only probable that both were the work of the same school of artists. When it is further borne in mind that the blocks of the *Canticum Canticorum*, and of an edition of the *Biblia Pauperum*, came into the possession of the printer, Peter van Os, of Zwolle, and were constantly used by him in a cut-up state in the last years of the fifteenth century, and when, further, it is observed that he published an edition of the *Ars Moriendi* closely copied from that now under consideration, the conclusion that some common origin must be ascribed to all three acquires an increased probability. In what locality the wood-cutter worked to whose knife these blocks were due remains for the present a mystery; but it seems hardly likely that he can have lived so far from Zwolle as Cologne, the town fixed upon by Weygel. The influence of the style of Roger van der Weyden is strongly marked in the wood-cuts; either, therefore, the proposed date (*circa* 1450) must be abandoned, or the proposed city of origin; for Roger's influence had not, in 1450, gained the mastery on the Rhine which it afterwards attained. If these blocks were made on the Rhine, they must be contemporary with the days of the "Master of the Lyversberg Passion"—that is to say, they must be dated *circa* 1480. There is, however, no doubt that the system of taking impres-

sions from wood-blocks by rubbing the back of the paper with the hand had long before then been given up. The conclusion, therefore, is that the wood-cutter must have worked farther North, probably either in Holland or Belgium. If someone would only settle once for all whether the Paris copy with the French text is from these same blocks or not, we should know better where we are.

While we think that the question of date and place deserves somewhat more attention than has been given it in the Introduction, we cannot but thank Mr. Bullen for the industrious care and exhaustive completeness with which he has brought together so large a number of facts relating to the subject-matter of the text. The remarkable similarity between its contents and those of the *Speculum Artis bene Moriendi*, first printed about 1475, is clearly not due to chance; how far the one is derived from the other, or whether both descend from a common source, are questions full of difficulty, and only to be unravelled by the most patient diligence. Mr. Bullen's opinion is that the authors of both had Jean Gerson's *Opusculum tripartitum* before them, the third part of which is entitled "De Arte Moriendi." Both, at any rate, quote the same sentence from the *Opusculum*, though with slight differences. So far as the twenty-four pages of reproductions are concerned, there can be but one opinion—they are as good as the work of hand can be. Mr. Price has traced each page with the minutest care, and has succeeded not merely in rendering with marvellous accuracy the expression of the faces and the characteristic handling of the hair, but he has imitated with utmost fidelity the accidental cracks and injuries of the blocks. It may well, however, be questioned how far traced copies of these productions are desirable in a day when photographic processes have been developed to such perfection. No copy made by hand can ever excite the same confidence as one produced purely mechanically. A good copyist must, indeed, reduce himself as far as possible to the level of a machine of the most refined character, and in such an attempt he can by no means compete with the delicacy of the camera. Even Weygel's photographs of the volume are of more real value to the student than the best tracings imaginable; and it may well be doubted whether the Holbein Society would not have done better to employ some process such as *heliogravure*, *surface-printing*, or *autotype* for these reproductions. However this may be, they have certainly produced a most valuable and interesting volume, and one of the most remarkable specimens of the once flourishing art of manual copying which is rapidly taking its place among abandoned crafts.

W. M. CONWAY.

#### THE EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

PHOTOGRAPHY has so nearly reached perfection that it is unreasonable to expect any extraordinary revelation in this exhibition. The combined use of the instantaneous shutters and dry plates has achieved a final triumph over the motions of things. Nature and time may, by

no forced metaphor, be said to have been conquered by this art. Intricacies which no eye can trace, action too swift for it to register, can be copied faultlessly by this wonderful mechanism. We have nothing quite so striking here as the photographs of horses in full trot; but we have athletes running races and swinging on the trapeze (228), the river at Henley during the regatta (479), the towers of spume raised by exploding torpedoes (98), and a thousand other fleeting phenomena struck for us with the sharpness and distinctness of a medal. On the other hand, the limits of photography are shown most clearly in the moment of conquest. The motion which we have spoken of as conquered is conquered only to be lost. The runners run no longer; like the persons in the well-known fairy tale, life seems suspended; they stay poised on one leg. And even in the pictures of material phenomena, the momentary aspect is caught, but the "cruel, crawling foam" crawls no longer, and the spray hangs for ever in mid-air. Photography gives us the present only, neither the before nor the after, fractions of which enter into even the most swift impression of human vision. But there are other things dear to sight which photography cannot give us. Not to mention colour, the delicate consistency of delicate things, such as flowers and flesh, the transparency and inner light of waves or grapes or clouds, are apparently beyond it—its effects are as superficial as they are instant.

Its field of triumph is, however, wide enough; and, except the instantaneous mechanism, nothing has recently increased it more than the process of enlarging small negatives. Indeed, without this the other would be comparatively useless. Mr. Whympster would have found it almost impossible to have taken his views of the Andes on the scale they are now so delightfully presented to us by the Autotype Company; and Mr. J. T. Dixon could never have "fixed" his animals in such happy attitudes, or have produced such unblurred plates, if he had had to bear about with him unwieldy apparatus. Not excepting even the portraits of children, of which there are numerous and beautiful specimens (see especially Mr. Faulkner's 381 and 393), no photographs here reproduce their objects with so little loss as these portraits of animals at the Zoological Gardens. In expression there is nothing so lifelike and unaffected as that of the vulture, in texture nothing to equal its feathers or the hide of the zebra while the loss of colour is scarcely felt. It is difficult to believe that all this detail of skin and hair can be as distinct in the little plate in the corner; but it would appear from comparison with other photographs of animals close to Mr. Dixon's that the little plates are not only less difficult to manage, but produce clearer and more perfect results when enlarged than can be obtained by the use of larger plates in the first instance.

Medals have been awarded to Messrs. William England, Joseph Gale, William Bedford, H. F. Robinson, and Abel Lewis, whose beautiful plates we have no space to describe. We must, however, find room for a word of praise for Mr. J. Thomson, F.R.G.S., who is excelled by no exhibitor in refinement or artistic sense. His portraits of Lady O. Bentinck are charming; and we are not sure that his group of children on the beach, called *Waiting for the Waves*, is not the best "natural" composition we have ever seen.

COSMO MONKHOUSE.

#### THE ART MAGAZINES.

THE current number of *L'Art* contains a vigorous article by M. Paul Lervi advocating the creation of a separate Department of State for the representation of the fine arts in France.



According to the views of the writer, which are shared, as we understand, by the majority of French artists, the existing system of administration has proved wholly ineffective and inadequate. At present, the fine arts are controlled by an Under-Secretary of State, who is attached to the Department of Public Instruction. M. Turquet, the occupant of this office, has earned general respect in the discharge of his duties; but he is unable, by the circumstances of his position, to exert sufficient influence or authority. M. Ferry, the nominal representative in the Cabinet of the interests of art, devotes himself altogether to matters relating to public instruction; and it is therefore urged that the time has arrived for giving to art a distinct and separate representation. It is thought that M. Gambetta might be disposed to view the proposal with favour, and it is possible that the change may be made on his accession to power.

The *Portfolio* has for frontispiece this month a charming drawing by Mr. G. D. Leslie of a young girl reading a love-letter. This has been reproduced by M. Dujardin by a new and very effective process, which is thus described:—

"The drawing is done in black-lead pencil, not on paper, but on a piece of finely ground plate-glass. No photograph is taken, as in ordinary methods of photogravure, but, by light transmitted through the drawing itself, the necessary action is produced on the sensitive etching-ground which covers the copper-plate. The plate, when bitten, can, of course, be printed in ink of any colour that may be preferred."

The present impression is printed in red ink, and has all the effect of a red-chalk drawing. Prof. Colvin discourses learnedly on the three types of Amazons found in Greek art; and Mr. Hamerton continues his nautical aesthetics by an examination of "spars," which he defines as including all kinds of masts, yards, gaffs, booms, bowsprits—"indeed, any kind of stick which carries or extends a sail." Yachting men will find much to interest them in Mr. Hamerton's observations.

THE *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* prints this month a hitherto unpublished memoir of the French sculptor Jean-Jacques Caffieri, written in 1815 by the chevalier Lenoir, at that time administrator of the Musée des Monuments français. It gives various details concerning the life and works of Caffieri, especially with regard to the artistic family to which he belonged. Both his father and his grandfather had been sculptors in the service of the French King, and he himself was "Sculpteur du Roi" to Louis Quinze. The other articles of the number are either concerned with administrative questions or give descriptions of art collections, with the exception of one by M. Paliard, in which he seeks to demonstrate that the grisaille painting of *Abundance* in the Louvre is to be attributed to Raphael, and was an emblematical design relating personally to the Cardinal de Boisy, whose six abbays are signified by the six ears of wheat that Abundance carries in her cornucopia. This sounds a somewhat fanciful interpretation, but there seems little doubt that the grisaille served as cover to the small *Holy Family* by Raphael in the Louvre.

ONE of Millet's beautiful landscapes, in which a flat prosaic scene is lifted by the magic of his genius into the realm of poetry and mystery, is etched by M. Gustave Greux, with his usual skill and true feeling, in *L'Art* of last week. It is called "Rentrée du Troupeau," and is from the picture in the collection of M. Georges Petit.

#### NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

MR. J. PARK HARRISON will publish immediately, with Mr. Bernard Quaritch, a Descriptive Account of the Incised Slate Tablet and other Remains lately discovered at Towyn. The work will be illustrated with an autotype reproduction of the principal face of the tablet, and with several other plates, showing both the engraved figures on a larger scale, and some of the corresponding objects in early Irish and other art with which they may be identified.

A BIOGRAPHICAL catalogue of the portraits in Lord Bath's collection at Longleat, by Miss Boyle, is in the press, and will shortly be published by Mr. Elliot Stock.

MR. DAVID LAW writes to us that his twenty etchings of *The Thames—Oxford to London*, about to be published by Messrs. George Bell and Sons, are quite new and distinct from the ten much larger plates already published by Messrs. Dowdeswells.

THE Holbein Society, having just issued to its subscribers a facsimile of the *editio princeps* of the Block-Book *Ars Moriendi* (which we notice elsewhere), has now in hand *The History of the Noble, Valiant, and Renowned Hero and Knight, the Lord Tewdrdownckh*, from the Augsburg edition of 1519.

THE memorial of the late Sir E. Landseer for erection in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral by Mr. Woolner, R.A., is now finished in miniature, of which the larger statue will be a reproduction. The statue will be of white marble, seven feet six inches high by nearly four feet in length. The top is adorned with a design emblematical of his profession, in the centre is a medallion head of the painter, and in the lower portion of the memorial is a relief copy from his well-known picture, *The Chief Mourner*, representing the shepherd's dog with its head resting on the coffin of its dead master.

COMPLAINTS are making themselves heard in Scotland that the National Gallery at Edinburgh does not receive its due share of parliamentary moneys. It appears from the votes for the current year that the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square has a credit of £19,273; the National Portrait Gallery at South Kensington, £3,349; and the Dublin Gallery, £3,575. The Scotch National Gallery obtains only £1,170; and even this sum is represented to be merely the equivalent of a debt due from England to Scotland under the Act of Union. It need hardly be added that the provincial towns of the United Kingdom get nothing at all.

THOSE who know Bristol, and all who are interested in old English domestic architecture, will be concerned to hear that "the Canynge apartments" in Redcliffe Street have been seriously (and it is feared irretrievably) damaged by the great fire that took place on the premises of Messrs. Jefferies on the night of October 10. The timber roof of the old hall, famous for its quaint corbels, is partially destroyed; and "Canynge's parlour," with its ornamental fireplace and its carved furniture, has also suffered greatly.

ANYONE interested in archaeology who may happen to visit Cannes this winter will find it worth while to make an expedition to St.-Vallier. M. Bottin, the postmaster there, has for some time been excavating prehistoric remains of much interest in the neighbourhood. We learn from *Le Commerce*, a local journal, that he has discovered a tomb in which cremated remains were found, with articles of the Neolithic period. The carbonised skeleton is that of a powerful man, and it is surrounded by weapons of bronze and of polished flint, with bits of pott-ry. M. Bottin has been quite unaided in his very meritorious enterprise, and it is to be hoped that the French Government

will assist him to carry out his researches in a thorough and regular fashion.

M. DE NEUVILLE's fine picture, *The Defence of Rorke's Drift*, exhibited for a long time in Bond Street, has been bought for the newly formed museum at Sydney, New South Wales.

WITH reference to the objects missing from the "Find near Thebes," Mr. Spencer George Perceval writes to us suggesting that a loan exhibition of Egyptian antiquities in the principal countries of Europe, and also in America, might possibly lead to the identification of some that have got into private hands.

WE learn from the *Etcher* that Mr. W. W. Burgess has just completed an etching of Hughenden church, of which the first proof is in the possession of the Queen.

WE are enabled to give some particulars of a forthcoming picture sale of extreme interest. The Bierens collection is coming into the market, and will fall under the hammer at Amsterdam on November 15. It is of remarkable attractiveness. Like the van Loon collection, which was bought *en bloc* about four years ago by the Rothschild family, and was then divided between them, the Bierens collection is a small one; it contains only about thirty pictures. But, again like the van Loon collection, it consists almost entirely of works brought together during the lifetime of their painters, and thus has acquired a particular character for the authenticity of its attributions, and for the immunity its canvases have enjoyed from the destructions of "restoration." Amassed in the latter half of the seventeenth century, the Bierens collection, during its existence of 200 years, has had one notable adventure—that was in the year 1747, when the death of Antonie Bierens compelled a sale, or at all events the formalities of a sale. The family, however, were minded to retain nearly all that was most interesting in the ancestral treasures, and they were themselves the best purchasers at the auction. Thus, the collection, though nominally dispersed, was practically preserved. It contains two important shipping-pieces by Backhuysen, and, among landscape, two of the suave mountain pastorals of Berghem, and an instance of the homelier art of Adrian van de Velde. But its strength we take to be in its figure pieces, and among these especially the figure pieces of men of the second rank, or men little known. Of Van Slingelandt it possesses what, in the middle of the eighteenth century, when Antonie Bierens died, and the collection was for sale, was accounted the capital example of this brilliant little master. This is the work entitled *La Dentellière*, and displaying three figures, a grave infant and two women who are merrily yet variously enamoured of it. One of them—she whose pursuit gives the name to the picture—sits apart, observant of the child, while not neglectful of her own delicate labour; the other, younger and more abandoned, bends delightedly over that juvenile member of society who is at once her charge and her toy. By Sorg there is a remarkable work, *La Cuisine*—an important example and an excellent illustration of the manners of the day. The kitchen seems also to be a living-room, and there is time for gossip as well as for plucking of birds. By B. Graat there is a picture probably not incorrectly chronicled as "pièce capitale du maître;" the main interest is in the painting of a group of luxurious women, attired finely, if slightly. The graver masters of *genre* painting are not wanting to the collection. There is a Metz who shows that painter of the comfortable classes dealing with a model of more humble life than such as generally engaged his art. There is an Adrian van Ostade of much dignity, though it does but portray a solitary

drinker. And—not to prolong the catalogue—there is a De Hooghe in treatment brilliant and sober, and in theme calmly austere. We see the interior of a plain-tinted chamber, its cool patterned flooring, its square chairs set against the walls, its black-framed pictures hung high, and of mysterious effect, under the half-shadow of the ceiling, its casements admitting a clear but moderate light from a quiet afternoon sky.

THE School of Art Wood-Carving in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, has reopened after the summer holidays. There are twelve free studentships in the school, six in the day and six in the evening classes, maintained out of funds provided by the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education. Some of these are now vacant, and candidates should address themselves to the secretary.

THE second annual exhibition of tapestry paintings by lady amateurs and artists will be held in Messrs. Howell and James's new art galleries during the months of December and January. Exhibitors are restricted to one work; and even that one work will first be submitted to the approval of the judges, Sir Coutts Lindsay and Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A. A numerous and valuable list of prizes is offered.

WE learn from the *Scotsman* that an interesting object of ecclesiastical art, wrought entirely by hand, has just been finished by an Edinburgh jeweller. This is a cross, over three feet in height, to be placed on the reredos of St. Mary's Cathedral. It is composed of four distinct crosses, arranged in a single cruciform design. The material is oxidised silver and silver gilt. The details are elaborated from old examples of Scottish ecclesiastical art; and the centre is ornamented with bright Scotch crystals.

AN important archaeological discovery has been made in excavating one of the *kurdans*, or old tombs, in the Sakubam district of Southern Russia. Several glass vessels were found, profusely ornamented with gold and precious stones; and a gold plate, six inches in diameter, with a fine bas-relief. A local archaeologist is disposed to assign the objects to the third century B.C.

THE second annual congress of German numismatists has just been held at Dresden, under the presidency of Dr. Erbstein. At the same time an exhibition was opened of coins now in use throughout the world, which is said to have been the most complete collection of the kind ever seen.

THE archaeological collection of objects brought by the comte d'Hérissay from the site of Utica, to which we have already referred, was opened to the public at the Louvre on October 1. A catalogue compiled by the Comte will shortly be issued from the Imprimerie nationale.

ON the occasion of the inauguration of the patriotic monument at St.-Quentin on October 8, the sculptor M. Barras was raised to the rank of Officer of the Legion of Honour. M. Henri Martin, historian and senator, delivered an address commemorating the heroic defence of the town not only against the Germans in 1870, but also against the Spaniards in 1557.

### THE STAGE.

THE chief interest thus far attaching to the Savoy Theatre, which Mr. D'Oyly Carte opened on Monday, and had previously shown to "the press," is due to the novel scheme of decoration and to the lighting. But, as far as the lighting is concerned, only the auditorium, and not the stage, has yet been submitted to the new

experiment; and it is only when the stage itself is lighted by electricity that the novel conditions of scene- and face-painting will be understood. Of the theatre itself and of its decoration a word may be said. The place holds about 1,400 people, and is a little smaller than the Gaiety. The architect, Mr. Phipps, who has built all the best theatres of our day, has succeeded in solving a problem really difficult in theatre-building—that of providing a fair view of the stage from every seat in the house. The decorations of the theatre are by a firm of artists who, as far as we know, have not previously been engaged in the ornamentation and upholstering of a playhouse—Messrs. Collinson and Lock. These gentlemen are experts in chastened design, and their work in colour is remarkable for its combination of sobriety and glow. Accordingly, it is not to be wondered at that the interior of the Savoy is one of the most picturesque of the public interiors of London. Modelled plaster-work of delicate draughtsmanship and of carefully studied relief is adroitly employed. While the curtain is pale primrose or ivory, the fronts of the boxes are cream-coloured; gold is distributed only in large and important masses, its effect not frittered away; and there is a warm background of noble red. Amid these agreeable surroundings—the results of modern taste and artistic advance—there was presented on Monday night the comic opera which is a good-humoured satire on this taste and this advance. But *Patience* is so funny that it can be heard with genuine amusement; and the conversion of the spectator to the ugliness brought before him in the last scene is not likely to be so prompt as was that of the chorus.

THE Royalty Theatre in Dean Street—the "Miss Kelly's theatre" of Miss Kelly's Soho—has re-opened under the management of Mr. Alexander Henderson, Miss Lawler and her company being on a tour in the North. The farcical comedy presented is the work of Messrs. Reece and Thorpe; and, though Mr. Reece's skill has hitherto been displayed almost entirely in comic scenes, there have been conceived for the new piece one or two scenes in which the interest of a mild pathos is roused, the part of the neglected heroine being played most discreetly by that clever young actress, Miss Lydia Cowell, who has a touch of Mrs. Bancroft's ability to be almost at the same moment piquant and sentimental. Miss Lottie Venne gives a brisk performance in the part of an actress who is helping some amateurs; Mr. J. G. Taylor, in a part that would suit Mr. Hare, and which does indeed inevitably remind us a little of "Beau Parintosh," assumes the airs of senile gallantry and the graces of laborious juvenility. Mr. G. W. Anson is one of the remaining actors of importance included in the cast. The piece, not aiming to be consistent, succeeds in being entertaining.

AN important revival is promised us at the Court Theatre, which will immediately re-open. This is the revival of *Home*, one of the less-known plays of the late T. W. Robertson. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will both appear in it. Furthermore, there will be a new little piece—the very latest adaptation of the touching French piece, *Jeanne qui pleure et Jeanne qui rit*. We know the part that Mrs. Kendal will play in this piece. By its absence of strong incident—of what is generally known as "dramatic action"—the part is a good deal removed from those in which Mrs. Kendal has chiefly appeared, and in which she is presumably most willing to face the chances of hearty approval. But, as Mrs. Kendal is one of the few actresses who appear able to gauge accurately their own powers, we are pretty confident in her success in the old piece under its new name of *The Cape Mail*.

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